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Walter Evans Edge, 1873-1956
A Tribute

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OVER a period of fifty years, it is not given to many American States to produce three great men. New Jersey, however, can point to Woodrow Wilson, Dwight Morrow and Walter Edge. Each of these men assumed extraordinary prominence in the public life of his day; their participation included the highest responsibilities in state, Federal and international affairs; and each, in his own way, raised his constituencies to new values of public action, and to new levels of public thinking.

It is interesting to note the different channels by which these men entered the service of their state and nation, and the different patterns they followed in reaching toward their goals. Their beginnings were alike in several ways. Each started from what Walter Edge called "a respectable middle class neighborhood," in the small towns of Augusta, Georgia; Allegheny, Pennsylvania; and Pleasantville, New Jersey.[1] Each came from a

THE ADDRESS here printed was delivered before the Princeton Historical Society on June 2, 1960, at the home of Mrs. Walter E. Edge. Dr. Sly, long an intimate friend of Mr. Edge, is Director of the State and Local Government Section in the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs and Professor of Politics at Princeton University.

family of modest economic means. Each had a father of character and determination—a preacher, a teacher and a "railroad man"; and each had a mother remembered with affection and gratitude. Woodrow Wilson was Scotch-Irish—and always proud of it. Dwight Morrow was more or less indifferent to genealogies, but "remained content," says his biographer, "with the belief that his forebears had vaguely immigrated from Ireland."[2] Walter Edge was strictly Anglo-Saxon, and this he accepted as so normal a heritage as to be unworthy of comment.

While there was constant lack of funds in the boyhoods of these men, there was nothing grim or dark in their family lives. Woodrow Wilson and Dwight Morrow were brought up in a stern discipline of learning, and with considerable sacrifice obtained the intellectual status that springs from the curricula of colleges, universities and professional schools. Walter Edge was given a lesson of another kind. Throughout his schoolboy years, the influence of his great-uncle, Dr. John P. Edge—a "horse and buggy doctor," wrote Walter, "ministering to all ailments, large and small"—touched him closely; and there may have been much significance in the molding qualities of his pragmatic advice.

Uncle Doctor John's philosophy was simple. He believed in aspiring to something and to something high. He had no patience with "rich men's sons" who could have "sleds and skates and horses" for the asking (those were his exact words), and then avoided for the rest of their lives what he considered to be the personal responsibility of every man—to earn. Boarding school and college were laudable goals, but like everything else they were for those who could in their own right gain such opportunities. The first law of manliness was to be "completely on your own," and while there might be a limit to your grasp, there could be no limit to your goal. On one of these fascinating rides, I remarked that I saw no reason why I could not become President of the United States. Flicking the old horse to greater effort—a habit he had before answering a serious question—he said soberly, "Walter, always put your ambition above your reach. It will keep you striving to attain it." In this way he both admon-

[1]The reference is to childhood environment. Wilson was born in Staunton, Va.; Morrow, in Huntington, W. Va.; Edge, in Philadelphia.

[2]Harold Nicolson, *Dwight Morrow* (New York, 1935), p. 3.

ished and encouraged me. But it was the encouragement that stuck, and in my boyish way, I raised my sights a little higher after a summer with Uncle Doctor John.[3]

There were, therefore, basic purposes that distinguished Walter Edge in youth from his two great contemporaries—to improve his business position; to obtain financial independence at the earliest possible time; and thereafter, to enter and remain in public life. This last was more than a purpose, it was a planned development; and he went about it with the tenacity and precision with which Woodrow Wilson prepared for academia and Dwight Morrow prepared for the law. For Wilson and Morrow the first 30 years were largely educational—for Wilson, Davidson College, Princeton, a law degree from the University of Virginia and a Ph.D. from Johns Hopkins in 1886; for Morrow, Amherst and a law degree from Columbia in 1899. For Edge (from the age of 14) it was printing, publishing and advertising—the Dorland Advertising Agency at 17; his first newspaper (the *Atlantic City Guest*) at 20; the *Atlantic City Press* at 22; the *Atlantic City Daily News* at 25. By 1910 (at the age of 37) Walter Edge's Dorland Advertising Agency was spread throughout the United States and Western Europe; and the first two cycles of his program were completed—he had "improved his business position" and obtained financial independence.

By 1910, each of these men was ready for public life. Wilson, 16 years the senior of Morrow and Edge, was about to become Governor of New Jersey—his first public office. Morrow, restless with the practice of law, was considering standing for election as the mayor of Englewood, and in 1912 became candidate for district delegate for Bergen County to the National Republican Convention; he withdrew as a candidate for mayor and was defeated for district delegate. Walter Edge started with the marching clubs of Pleasantville and Atlantic City and was most active in the local Republican clubs. His first political appointment was as clerk to the New Jersey Senate from 1897 through 1899. He was Secretary of the Senate, 1901-1904; defeated for Senator

[3]Walter Evans Edge, *A Jerseyman's Journal* (Princeton, 1948), p. 7.

for Atlantic County in 1904—his only political defeat for elective public office; first lieutenant on Governor Franklin Murphy's military staff; alternate delegate-at-large to the Republican National Convention, presidential elector and member of the New Jersey Assembly in 1908, because, he said, "my slight but highly titled background apparently impressed the voters."

* * *

The year 1910 had ended a decade of great population and industrial expansion in New Jersey, and a succession of five Republican administrations had been slow to keep pace with the demands of an expanding community. The Democrats saw their opportunity, talked of new faces and the "New Idea", and whispered of a "dark horse" as their candidate for governor. It was at this time that Walter Edge first took note of Woodrow Wilson.

As a member of Governor Murphy's staff, I had attended Woodrow Wilson's induction as president of Princeton in 1902. I knew him as a powerful speaker with the ability to express himself clearly and eloquently. But like many other Jersey politicians in both camps, I tended to underestimate him. He had never interested himself in either national or state politics and although he had a reputation for great scholarly achievement in political science and jurisprudence, it is widely known that he had rarely bothered to cast his vote.[4]

"How wrong we were," wrote Edge, "is a matter of history." Wilson not only was easily elected, but carried enough Democrats into the legislature with him to assure himself support in a joint ballot of the two houses. But the slim Republican majority of three in the Senate was partly due to Walter Edge. He won election as State Senator from Atlantic County on the appropriate seashore issue of an oyster-ground leasing bill.

Wilson's legislative record as Governor of New Jersey was largely in four fields—utility regulation, election reform, workmen's compensation and, belatedly in the last few months of office, monopoly control. Edge and his Republican colleagues gave full support to the passage of the utility and election bills, and Edge gave his personal attention to the matter of employers'

[4] *Ibid.*, p. 69.

liability in case of occupational accidents in a plant. This he had worked on while in the Assembly, and in the summer of 1910 had, while in Europe, studied the methods used in England and other countries. Early in the session of 1911 he introduced his bill, and had his first direct legislative contact with Wilson. It was a little on the abrupt side. The Edge bill was opposed by a similar administration bill, and Edge refused to substitute the administration bill for his own. The Governor gave him a somewhat curt dismissal; and when the so-called Edge Compensation Bill became law, Edge commented a bit sharply on "the unbending man" who "never knew and . . . never learned the strength of the old adage: You'll always get more from a donkey with a carrot than with a stick."[5]

In 1912, Edge became majority leader of the Senate, and his relations with Wilson became close, and at times even kindly. When Wilson announced his candidacy for the Presidency, however, they again became opponents, and upon Wilson's departure for Washington, Edge had formed his opinion of his colleague, which he recorded with much thought and care in his autobiography. In reading it, we must remember that it is the judgment of a practical man—a superb operator—accustomed to examining motives as well as objective, sensitive to the responsibilities of team play, and skillful in every expression of political competition:

> In general, contacts with Wilson were pleasant and at times even close. I admired his positive qualities, his many elements of greatness. But he was not a great leader except in an evangelistic sense. He could, in other words, arouse, but he could not lead. This was partly because he lacked the experience to understand the implications of the very things he proposed, had little respect for the legal and political restraints which surround and condition every public executive, and had a certain fanatical ruthlessness about him that would wreck a good cause for the slight chance of winning a better one. He was not so much concerned with reform as he was with ideals. He could express his objectives in classic phrases which everyone could understand, but the ultimate product was almost always the work of other men whom he often opposed and never acknowledged. He was doubtless a true liberal, sincere in his con-

[5] *Ibid.*, pp. 74-75.

victions and tenacious in upholding them. But in a sense Wilson never led his own procession, and while his banner was carried in the vanguard, and his fervent oratory inspired the marchers, he occupied a petulant position behind his own lieutenants.[6]

* * *

For the next three years (1913-1916) Walter Edge concentrated heavily on his legislative responsibilities. As companion bills to his workmen's compensation act he prepared, introduced and passed a law establishing a ten-hour working day for women, and another safe-guarding factory workers against industrial hazards and occupational diseases. In 1916 he was chairman of a Special Economy and Efficiency Commission which made important beginnings toward integrated administrative services; and he followed this by successfully sponsoring an act creating an executive budget and another establishing a state purchasing agency.

Nineteen sixteen marked the end of his second three-year term in the Senate. A new governor was to be elected, and the time seemed right to try for what had always been his "ultimate goal" in state politics. With what sounds a bit over-confident, but was actually one of his own shrewd self-appraisals, Walter said, "There was little doubt that, although I was only forty-two years of age, my background was sufficiently strong to win the respect of many of the voters of New Jersey." He won the primary against his old friend Austen Colgate by a scant 3,000 votes, and faced his Democratic opponent Otto Wittpenn, Frank Hague's predecessor as mayor of Jersey City, in the election. Edge's slogan was "A Business Man With a Business Plan." It did fit well with New Jersey's "ten million dollar a year business"—high by standards of that day—and he made a full-time job of selling it. It was a rough campaign, and on the last day he had his final and roughest contact with Woodrow Wilson. The President had been content with mild "porch chats" during his resting periods at Shadow Lawn. With casual references he had supported Wittpenn, but on the Saturday night before election he launched a

[6] *Ibid.*, p. 77.

"blistering attack" against Walter. "It was the most trying political contest in which I ever participated," he wrote, but summed it up with his usual respect for final results: "I defeated Wittpenn by the largest gubernatorial plurality in the history of the state, almost 70,000 votes."

His inaugural address set forth, with his usual precision, just what he intended to do. As he described it later:

> The basic idea was simple enough: The Governor was to be the business manager of the state's varied interests; the legislature was to be the board of directors; and the people, the stockholders . . . I went on to advance a pet idea of mine that civic-minded men might be brought into government on regulatory or administrative boards, without compensation; to propose a reorganization of the state highway system; to endorse the modernization of transportation facilities between New Jersey and the two great cities of New York and Philadelphia; and to emphasize the need for reform in our state institutions and prisons.[7]

His first interest was in the question of New Jersey's tangled, inadequate and, at times, even corrupt highway system. His answer to this was General George W. Goethals, who had recently completed the Panama Canal, as State highway engineer. The result was the basic planning of the present highway network. The relief of the New Jersey commuter involved two vehicular projects: a Camden-Philadelphia bridge and a Jersey City-New York tunnel. Legislation promptly provided for both projects, ultimately resulting in the Delaware River Bridge and the Holland Tunnel—"undoubtedly," wrote Edge, "the most notable constructive achievement of my first term as governor." And one other thing in the transportation field: the Port of New York Authority had its inception on March 14, 1917, when Governor Whitman of New York and Governor Edge of New Jersey obtained legislative approval to appoint commissions to collaborate in developing the waterfront of the Port of New York. The final compact was signed in April 1921, when Edge was a member of the United States Senate.

It was at this time that Walter Edge had his first public con-

[7] *Ibid.*, p. 89.

tacts with Dwight Morrow. Morrow had been active in the presidential campaign of 1912, and had supported Taft against Roosevelt and Wilson. His momentous transition from the practice of the law to a partnership with J. P. Morgan and Co., in 1914, absorbed all of his great energies; and while the domestic and international implications of World War I were constantly on his mind, it was Walter Edge who brought him again into public life. Under the Governor's urgings the legislature established a commission to investigate the penal and reformatory agencies of the state, and Dwight Morrow became its chairman. As always, Morrow worked at his assignment with great intensity, thoroughness and intelligence; he produced, mainly at his own expense, a two-volume report of national significance; and he had the unusual satisfaction of seeing his recommendations receive immediate legislative acceptance, among them the establishment of the State Board of Institutions and Agencies, of which he became the first chairman. In November of that year, he became director for New Jersey of the National War Savings Committee, and following a decade of participation in public service, he again served his state as successor to Edge in the United States Senate—unhappily reduced to only a few months by his death.

* * *

The remainder of Walter Edge's term as Governor was immersed in the World War I effort, and he discharged his responsibilities with all the fervor that marked his peace time activities. His energy was tremendous:

> The day's mail, always heavy, had become a real burden with the advent of the war. Sudden changes in the lives of our people and their varied occupational interests due to the draft and other wartime measures put thousands of questions and requests up to the Governor. All of this was piled up on top of the mail relating to official state business and military communications, but my two assistant secretaries, Richard Porter and Ralph Newton, ingenious young men inured to executive department work in the State House, were equal to the occasion. They devised the "before-breakfast-dictation plan." Mail was opened and sorted not long after break of day. Whatever required my attention was brought to my house before breakfast by Porter and that to be handled by my personal

secretary was taken to his home before breakfast by Newton. By this means, most of the dictation was accomplished before office hours began. Upon opening the business of the official day, the decks were cleared and we were ready for the steady stream of personal visitors.[8]

But at the age of 46, Edge faced a major decision. His term as Governor was about to expire. Under the State Constitution, he could not succeed himself. He had two choices—a temporary (or permanent) retirement from politics or to run for the United States Senate. Early in 1918, Senator William Hughes had died in office. The Governor had appointed David Baird, Sr., to serve as his successor. In the primaries, Baird was nominated for the unexpired portion of Hughes' term, and Edge was nominated to succeed Baird. There was no competition in the primaries and very little in the election. Both men were easily elected. Edge's term as Senator was to begin March 4, 1919. He had intended to fulfill his term as Governor, but the Senate was so tightly organized—48 Republicans, 47 Democrats and 1 Independent—that he resigned and took his oath as Senator on May 19, 1919.

On his first term in the Senate, Walter Edge left many of his incisive, thumb-nail comments. He reported that Wilson as President "had grown very touchy and more intolerant than ever of criticism." Perhaps remembering Dr. Edge's early advice to "put your ambition above your reach," he promptly expressed his preference to serve on the Foreign Relations Committee or, as second choice, the Committtee on Finance. What he drew was Post Office and Port Roads and the Committee on Commerce, and as a "minor assignment", a place on the Committee for the District of Columbia.

But "despite these 'reverses' ", he said, "I was fairly active as a plebe." His S. J. 12, creating a commission to report upon the ways and means of securing a national budget, led to the passage of the Budget and Accounting Act, establishing the Bureau of the Budget, the General Accounting Office and the Comptroller General. He introduced amendments to the Federal Reserve Act to liberalize credits on exportations of American products to all parts of the world, and day after day rose patiently in the Senate

[8] *Ibid.*, pp. 106-107.

trying for a roll call on his bill. It was finally passed and approved by President Wilson on Christmas Eve, 1919.

Walter Edge had an active part in the most bitter issue of the day—the League of Nations. He was with the "mild reservationists." He thought that "a point of honor was involved with our allies;" that "Lodge was strongly guided by his personal enmity for Wilson"; that a "blanket reservation was unbusinesslike and insincere"; and stressed the need for "honest compromise." Efforts were made to pull him completely into the Wilson group, but he maintained that "some protection of the sovereignty of the United States was necessary" and held strictly to his first position.[9]

* * *

When Edge stood for renomination for his second term in the Senate in 1924, the Coolidge era was at its height, and the overwhelming issue of the day was whether a man was "wet" or "dry". During his first term as Senator, he had supported every anti-prohibition movement, and he stood for re-election firmly opposed to the 18th Amendment. He won the nomination by 60,000 votes; and the election against Frederick W. Donnelly, former mayor of Trenton, by a 200,000 plurality. This very definite endorsement gave him a strong position in the Senate, and he did arrive on the Finance Committee and later on the Committee on Foreign Relations, "thereby", he said, "gratifying a long-standing ambition of mine." But this was not all. He was made a member of the Committee on Banking and Commerce; and finally, he wrote, "exceeded . . . all my anticipations by becoming a member of the Committee on Committees, where, should I desire, I could do a little hazing on my own account."

On December 15, 1925, he delivered his first speech in the Senate against prohibition. It was two hours long—a lenth unprecedented in his public statements. As to the question itself, he wrote, "I cannot recall a national issue where unadulterated hypocrisy played such an important part." His Senate duties now revolved around his important committee assignments, and except for his pet project of a canal across Nicaragua, there was

[9] *Ibid.*, pp. 117-118.

little opportunity or occasion for personal sponsorship of legislation. He was an early supporter of Herbert Hoover for the presidential nomination in 1928, but regretted the injection of the religious issue in the campaign against Al Smith, and "the platitudinous assertions of an intent to enforce the 18th amendment" in both party platforms. Upon the election of Hoover, one of Edge's first acts was to urge upon the President the appointment of his old friend, Dwight Morrow, as Secretary of State.

* * *

While actually shooting into a covey of quail, I saw one of the plantation boys riding rapidly toward us. The boy handed me a telegram, dated November 21, 1929 which read: "The President has appointed you Ambassador to France and the Senate has made immediate confirmation.[10]

Walter Edge had traveled extensively in Europe since his youth, but this was his first experience in the milieu of European diplomacy. He was fully aware of the difference in his new position, complicated by strained relations between France and the United States over tariff policies and the post-war questions of war debts, reparations and disarmament. As always, however, he never doubted himself, or the universal qualities of his methods. Things could be done in Paris just as they were done in Trenton. There were, to be sure, new difficulties of language, protocol and procedure. There was a motley constituency of some 25,000 Americans—businessmen, expatriates, students and tourists —"thousands of them who had more needs, both real and imaginary, than it is possible to classify." There was a strange hierarchy of French society with innumerable gradations of title and address; ever shifting political groups; and an infinite variety of commercial and industrial interests. But to Walter Edge, people were people, and once you found out what they wanted, they responded to the same treatment everywhere.

The morning of his arrival he called upon the French Foreign Minister, M. Briand, and found out what he wanted: It was assurance that no secret agreement existed between Britain and the United States to limit the development of French naval

[10] *Ibid.*, p. 147.

power. His next contact was with Marshal Lyautey—the hero of Indo-China, Madagascar and North Africa. His wants were simple. As president general of the Colonial Exhibition in Paris, he was most unhappy because the United States had refused his invitation to participate in the exposition. Walter had been a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee when the invitation was rejected; but he at once wrote his personal friend Senator Borah, the chairman of the Committee (compromising protocol with a copy of the letter to the Secretary of State), and promptly received a grant of $400,000 for the purpose. From the Prime Minister, M. Tardieu, he listened to uneasiness over the pending London Naval Conference, the broader question of general disarmament, and the "double taxation" issue whereby France contemplated the taxation of American corporate subsidiaries on the earnings of their parent companies.

It was such issues—plus reparations and the tariff—that fully occupied his attention during his service in France. Always a "big navy" man, he brought his usual realism to bear on the disarmament question: "Disarmament is not a means toward peace," he wrote. "On the contrary, it is an invitation to aggression to those with aggressive intent. Peace must, in fact, precede disarmament, and the formula is far more complex than physical limitations of tonnage and gun mountings."[11] The tariff issue was complicated with a new duty of some 300 per cent on French lace, at a time when the French lace industry was in extreme depression. "I wrote my former colleagues in the Senate at great length," he said, "and on April 18 the extra tariff on lace was dropped."[12] The Hoover moratorium on intergovernmental debts and reparations resulted in tedious conferences leading to the Franco-American Moratorium Accord. "I shall not go into the details of the negotiations," he wrote. "Suffice it to say . . . that in the smoke-filled room we gradually whittled down our differences."[13] At the Paris conference on relieving the financial strains in central Europe, Walter came away with increased pessi-

[11] *Ibid.*, p. 160.
[12] *Ibid.*, p. 166.
[13] *Ibid.*, p. 198.

mism: "Mr. Bruening's demands were too great, and M. Laval's concessions . . . were too small. As usual, there was compromise, and compromise was the graveyard of Europe's hopes."[14]

* * *

"Following the inauguration of Franklin Roosevelt," said Walter, "there was little I could accomplish in Paris as Mr. Hoover's representative." Following an extensive trip through Europe, he officially retired as Ambassador, and returned home with the gloomy conviction "that the fires of revenge and hatred were smoldering so furiously that eventual conflagration was almost inevitable." The next ten-year period, he notes, "was not exactly one of full employment for my fellow republicans," and aside from serving as delegate-at-large to the 1936 and 1940 Republican conventions, and campaigning for Republican nominees, it was a matter of travel and recreation—and "we had a grand time." His attempts to join the war effort were unsuccessful. There was some effort to push his candidacy for the Senate in 1942, but with a split and leaderless Republican party, Edge agreed once again to seek the governorship of New Jersey. In 1943, he carried 18 of the 21 counties and won by a plurality of 127,000 votes.

At the age of 70, Walter Edge entered his second term as Governor with all the energy, vision and determination that had marked his first term. He plunged immediately into administrative reorganization and constitutional revision. He stopped all public borrowing and established a $25 million post-war surplus fund. Following the legislative recess, he had every administration bill ready for introduction, and when the legislature reconvened he insisted on four or five sessions a week, instead of the customary one-day sessions. His first legislation created a new Department of Law, a new Department of Taxation and Finance, and provided for complete reorganization of the State Civil Service. Based on the studies and recommendations of the Commission on Post-War Economic Welfare, a Department of Eco-

[14] *Ibid.*, p. 203.

nomic Development was established; under it a veterans' loan program was created, the forerunner of the Federal G. I. Bill of Rights; and his initial program was concluded with a rehabilitation of the police and firemen's pension funds.

Constitutional revision was very close to his heart. A new constitution had been prepared by a State Commission on Constitutional Revision in 1941; and had been submitted to the legislature for amendment and revision prior to a referendum. Less than six weeks after he had assumed office, he obtained legislative approval. The constitution was placed on the ballot in the 1944 election, was attacked from every conceivable angle by the Hague Democrats, and lost by 126,000 votes, carrying only 9 out of the 21 counties. This was one of his few major defeats, and one of his greatest disappointments.

In 1945, the Governor turned his attention from administrative problems to the broader fields of public welfare. He urged increased benefits in the workmen's compensation act. He passed what was perhaps the most progressive migrant labor act in the United States. At his request the legislature created the Commission on the Taxation of Intangible Personal Property, and on its recommendation passed a low-rate net worth tax in lieu of the long-abused tax on intangibles. An anti-discrimination agency was established in the newly reorganized Department of Education; a veterans' re-employment and housing program was worked out in the Department of Economic Development; and finally, in his last year, he had his perhaps hardest but successful fight to pass legislation controlling strikes within public utilities. This was one of the most active legislative periods in the history of the State, and at its close the Governor had not only completed his program but had chosen Alfred E. Driscoll as his successor in office. "The last day came as it always does," he wrote, "[and] nothing remained for me but to polish off my top hat for the inaugural ceremonies on the morrow."

In 1946, Princeton University gave him an honorary degree of Doctor of Laws, and the citation read as follows:

WALTER EVANS EDGE, Governor of the State of New Jersey, and Chairman ex officio of our Board of Trustees. His career in business and

in government reads like an epic of American life. Following his graduation at the age of fourteen from the public school in Pleasantville, New Jersey, he began work on an Atlantic City newspaper. Within a few years he not only owned and published his own newspaper, but also established an internationally known advertising agency. His progress in public life was equally rapid. Starting as a Clerk in the New Jersey State Senate, he became successively Assemblyman, State Senator, Governor, United States Senator and Ambassador to France. He was first chosen Governor of New Jersey during World War I. Twenty-four years later, in November 1943, he was recalled from the comforts of a well-earned semi-retirement to be elected, by an overwhelming majority, Governor for a second term to give leadership to the State during the trying days of World War II. Each term that he has served as chief executive has been marked not only by the solution of perplexing problems but also by the enactment of broad legislative programs for future development. Those who succeed him will reap the benefit of his wisdom and courage.

We have been particularly happy to welcome him as a resident of Princeton and now today as an adopted son. We are not unmindful of the fact that by the Constitution of the State of New Jersey no Governor is permitted to succeed himself, but we venture to hope that the coming of the inexorable event will not be permitted to terminate his continued association with Princeton, or the place of warm friendship which he and his family have so speedily established in our regard and affection.

* * *

There is a footnote that goes with this statement, an omission that does not fit readily into the context, but would be important enough to set up in capitals and italics. During the most crucial years, Camilla Edge was not only a part of her husband's life, she was an equal partner in his undertakings, and a quiet counselor in his decisions. Such a relation is difficult to describe. There is no record to illuminate so deep and lasting an influence. But it is perpetuated in the memories of all those who knew Walter Edge; in the memories of those who experienced the ease and hospitality of innumerable social occasions that placed a gracious background behind the more serious purposes of the event; and in Morven, their gift to the State as the first official residence of its governors, which will forever commemorate a great man and a great lady.

Edward Kranich, 1826-1891

WILLIAM H. GERDTS

When, in the spring of 1957, the Newark Museum held its exhibition of "Early New Jersey Artists," the catalogue list of all the 18th- and 19-century artists of New Jersey included the painters Benjamin and Edward Kranich, the former of Elizabeth, the latter of Morristown. The information concerning Benjamin Kranich was gleaned from the lists of artists in the City Directories of Elizabeth in the 1890s; the reference to Edward Kranich was made possible by the discovery of a number of mid-19th-century pictures signed by him, depicting scenes in and near Morristown.

It has been only in the last year, however, that a number of other works by Edward Kranich have been found. In the same short time several unsigned pictures have been attributed to him on stylistic grounds, and some biographical information has become current, generously imparted by collateral descendants. As a result of these discoveries, and through research in other Elizabeth directories and in records of census, birth and death in the State during the late 19th century, enough material is now available to supply a general outline of the life of this interesting artist.

The date of Kranich's birth may be accepted as 1826, since he is listed as 54 years old in the 1880 New Jersey census, and the record of his death sets his age at 65 in 1891. He, his father and his sister are listed in the 1880 census as having been born in

The Writer, well known to readers of this magazine, is Curator of Painting and Sculpture at the Newark Museum. An exhibition of Edward Kranich's paintings is scheduled at the Museum for January 1961.

HUBERT MCCHESNEY'S FARM. Oil painting by Edward Kranich, owned by Mrs. John E. Reinhardt. *(Photo-copy courtesy of the Newark Museum, Newark, N. J.)*

THE OLD HOMESTEAD. Oil painting by Edward Kranich, owned by the Colby College Art Gallery, Waterville, Maine. *(Photocopy courtesy of the Newark Museum, Newark, N. J.)*

Saxony, but other records suggest Prussia as his birthplace, and it is a family tradition that he was a native of Essen, in the Prussian Rhine province. It is not known when the family emigrated to America, but it is quite likely that it was around 1848-1850, when so many people, particularly natives of Germany and of central Europe, fled the revolutions of the period and came to America. Many Germans, particularly, came to New Jersey, and there was a whole influx of German artists in the State at that time. Among them, for example, were Fridolin Schlegel and Johannes Oertel, who are little known today but were active in Newark art life in the 1850s.

Certainly the family were in this country by 1851. In that year Amelia Kranich, sister of Edward, who was born May 15, 1832, married Sidney Collins of Northfield, New Jersey, son of Pell and Locha Collins. It is not known exactly when Edward married Sidney's sister, Vashti. The Collins family moved to the outskirts of Morristown, in the area known now as Collinsville; the Kranichs settled in Elizabeth, where Edward's father was the manufacturer of Kranich and Bach pianos and brought the first Kranich and Bach upright piano to America.

Births, Careers, Deaths

As might perhaps be expected of her sex, the records of Vashti Collins Kranich's date of birth vary, but she seems to have been born sometime between 1834 and 1836. She died supposedly at the age of 60, on February 20, 1894. Edward and Vashti Kranich had six sons, all of whom became artists. The oldest, Alfred, was born in 1858 and died, at the age of 35, on July 31, 1893. The next was Vasco, born on October 20, 1861, who died at the age of 32 on February 27, 1893. Next came Edward Jr., who was born in 1865 and lived into the 20th century, certainly until 1901, but who, according to family tradition, died young. William Kranich was next, born in 1870, dying on July 19, 1899. The second youngest was Benjamin, born in 1872, dying on May 13, 1898. The youngest of all was John, who was born on February 10, 1877.

It is interesting to go through the Elizabeth city directories and note the gradual emergence as professional artists and artisans of members of the Kranich family. From 1868 to 1875 only Edward Sr. appears, living variously on Water, Palmer and High Streets. In 1876 Alfred appears as a painter with his father, Edward, their home being at 234 High Street; Edward is listed professionally as a sign painter, with gilding, lettering and ornamental work a specialty, and a shop address at 209 Broad Street. In 1879 Vasco joins his father and brother, now at 311 High Street, and in 1881 one finds Edward Jr. listed also. This son is listed under "Singers" in the 1883 Directory, and it is known that he worked for the Singer Sewing Machine Company, applying the ornamental decorations for the machines and cases. In 1886 the address changes, this time to 222 South Street, and in 1888 William appears as an ornamental painter. In 1890 the different members of the family are listed with a variety of occupations: Edward as artist, Alfred as a sign painter, Edward Jr. and Vasco as fresco painters and William as a machinist!

After that, however, comes the lamentable procession of family deaths and the corresponding omission of those members of the family from the directories, even as the youngest children appear. In 1892 Edward, the father, is gone, having died on October 25th of the previous year of peritonitis, while Benjamin appears in the directory as an artist and his older brothers as painters. By 1895 Vashti and two of her children, Alfred and Vasco, are dead, and John appears in the directories without profession. In 1898 Edward and William are listed as decorators, John as a painter, and Benjamin (who died that year) as a crayon artist, all at 213 South Street. William died the following year, and the Kranichs do not appear in the 1900 directory, while in 1901 Edward is listed alone as a painter at 100 Elizabeth Avenue. Family tradition has it that John, the son least interested in the arts and the only one that married, had children, moved to Pennsylvania and lived a longer life than his brothers. Efforts to find him or his descendants have been unavailing.

It can be seen from the listings that Edward Kranich and his sons practised various kinds of art—sign painting, ornamental

painting, and fresco—, and it is also known that Edward painted window shades, a popular form of decoration in the 19th century. Undoubtedly, however, Edward considered himself a fine artist. He is the only painter of his period in Elizabeth whose works have so far come to light, although a number of his contemporaries, among them Miss M. Z. Bloodgood and particularly the still-life painter, Mrs. A. N. Henshaw, exhibited frequently from Elizabeth in exhibitions in New York and Philadelphia.

The Paintings

Kranich was primarily a landscapist, although he painted some portraits, including one of his father-in-law, Pell Collins. This was done for Pell's children and is known through a photograph of the children which shows the portrait hanging in the background. He also painted a number of animal pictures, including one fascinating painting of numerous birds of different varieties, and a hunting picture featuring two dogs, done perhaps as a wedding present for his niece. Most of his landscapes which have so far come to light represent scenes in the Morristown area, resulting from visits to his sister and to other members of the Collins family. Thus far, at least, no depictions of Elizabeth or the surrounding area are known.

His work is distinguished by the attention he gives to figures and buildings within these landscapes. They are definitely topographical. Kranich was a painter who was interested not so much in the landscape, *per se,* as in picturing man's manner of life within the landscape. This is true both of his pictures of individual farms and homesteads, where the house, outbuildings, paths and fences are painted with scrupulous detail, and in his views of Morristown, where the buildings of different sizes and types, the factories, roads and railroad trains are all clearly depicted. In nearly all his pictures, too, figures are introduced, not only for scale, but also to bring the human element into the painting and to give a suggestion of man's activity. The figures are usually little more than ideographs, often with a combination of parent and child to add a touch of gaiety and sentiment.

Kranich also delighted in introducing animals—horses, cows and dogs—into his pictures.

His painting emphasizes sharp, linear forms in which elements both man-made and natural are simplified, and in which rocks, trees, bushes and clouds are painted according to a learned formula in a manner which might be termed semi-primitive. The paintings employ primarily the earth tones, sometimes relieved by touches of color in the costumes of the little figures. Nearly always trees or rocks rise on each side of the picture, so that the spectator looks through this natural frame at the main subject. The character of Kranich's pictures is usually quite tranquil and idyllic, although one waterfall picture emphasizes the dramatic power of nature. His two views of Speedwell Lake and Dam in Morristown are near duplicates, and he may have duplicated other works as well.

Several of Edward Kranich's paintings are owned by his collateral descendants, including lineal descendants of his sister, Amelia. One nephew, Julius Collins, who held an umbrella over his uncle while the latter was painting the picture of Speedwell Lake, is still alive, but further research, and the location of other paintings by Edward Kranich, has been hampered by failure to find Edward's son John or John's children. The only work by any of Edward's children that has turned up so far is a sketch of the Old Northfield Church, by Benjamin Kranich. Although Edward Kranich was certainly not a major artist, he was a painter who has left distinctive records of rural New Jersey of his time in a group of charming paintings.

Benjamin Thompson Pierson and His Newark Directories

IONE M. SONN

On Friday, October 30, 1835, a small notice appeared on the editorial page of the Newark *Daily Advertiser:*

THE NEWARK DIRECTORY is published this day and will be available to subscribers and others at the office of the Newark Daily Advertiser. Accompanying the DIRECTORY is a brief historical sketch of the town.

It was a thin little book measuring 4½ by 7 inches, neatly bound in hard covers of mottled brown and tan. Less than a third of Newark's population of about 18,200 that year were listed in its 102 pages. Introducing it was the "brief historical sketch of the town," whose author is unknown; and at the rear is a one-page appendix listing last-minute names, three pages of unadorned advertisements and a list of the city's eighteen churches and twelve hotels.

Six hundred copies were issued at fifty cents per copy, and all were sold. Newark's first directory had been successfully launched.

Five months before, in mid-June, Newarkers had been notified that a directory was in the making, and that a Mr. William Moulton was "engaged in collecting the names of householders and also subscribers to the work." Mr. Moulton progressed to the point of hiring an enterprising young accountant named Benjamin Thompson Pierson to put his lists in alphabetical

THE WRITER, daughter of Albert S. Sonn, who wrote *Early American Wrought Iron*, will be remembered as the valued author of "Highlights on Newark Ironware" in the October 1955 *Proceedings.*

order and copy them, but he could not carry through the project. So Pierson bought the material for $50 and finished the job.

According to a penciled note in his own copy of the 1835 directory, Pierson had put four-and-a-half months of work into this first issue, and after all expenses were paid he had just $58 left for himself. At that rate the venture certainly would not make him rich. Still, the little book had been a sell-out, and that seemed to him a go-ahead signal; so, in December of 1835, he obtained a copyright on an 1836 edition of the Newark Directory with himself as author. On March 10, 1836, the Newark *Daily Advertiser* duly carried his DIRECTORY NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS:

I wish all merchants, manufacturers, lawyers, physicians, auctioneers and others wishing to avail themselves of an excellent chance of advertising cheap and profitably, to forward them to my office—350 Broad Street—soon.

His canvassing notice followed three weeks later:

The fourth day of April I shall have one man to each Ward[1] to call at every dwelling to take the alterations and to take the names of those who were left out of the first book—and I wish everyone to be prepared to answer any questions asked; and those who have seen me concerning the Directory to say so—that there may be no delay.

No mincing of words here. These were almost orders. The good citizens of Newark may have been a little nettled, but they were also interested; and they evidently began needling Pierson about the second issue. This ultimately drove him to place another characteristic notice in the Newark *Daily Advertiser* of May 7, 1836:

To answer at once the thousand questions asked respecting its coming out, I say—Friday April first to sixth for people to move; 6th to 20th to call at every dwelling for new names and alterations; 20th to 30th to begin to get ready to print the book; 24th to 31st to bind; so as to begin to distribute. There will be double the first printing.

[1]Newark then had four wards (set up in 1833): the North, South, East and West Wards.

Only about 930 copies of the second issue of the directory were actually printed, however. And it was not until July 2, 1836, that Pierson proudly announced the new directories were on sale at:

W. E. Hill's Music Store	—	184 Broad
Wm. Tuttle's	—	248 do
Benjamin Old's	—	278 "
Grover Miller's	—	252 "
Ira C. Pierson & Co.'s	—	388 "

and at my office.

The 1836 issue was bigger and better than the first one. Introducing it was the well-known and often-consulted map of the city, which indicates the streets old, new and in the planning stage, and the location of churches, civic buildings and several of the better-known houses of the day. Other new features were the counting house almanac (a calendar for the year starting with the month the directory was issued), the new Newark City Charter and some interesting city statistics. There were also more advertisements.

This time the entire edition not only sold out but was about a hundred copies short of meeting the demand. Yet even at the increased price of 62½ cents per copy Pierson's net return on the venture was still painfully small.

The Fateful Die

Nevertheless, in the summer of 1836 he advertised that he had taken an office at 3 Bank Street "for the purpose of prosecuting the City Directory complete and wished all who had any orders in this line to call." The die was cast. For better or worse Benjamin Thompson Pierson was henceforth committed to the anxious business of getting out the Newark Directory for the rest of his life.

In the 1837 issue he really let himself go. Since the first map "did not embrace the whole city" he had a new one made by S. Dod, Esquire, "believed to be the only accurate engraved map extant." This feature alone cost him $150. For general interest

there is a frontispiece showing the Moravian Seminary at Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, and a brief article about the Moravian settlements.

Advertisements are now grouped by professions and trades, some of them headed by stock cuts, such as a wheat sheaf for the list of bakers or a steer for the butchers. A list of the stations of the various types of fire-fighting apparatus is added to those of the hotels and churches, and among the new advertisements are those of the local fire insurance companies. This issue also has an index, initiating another helpful feature.

For the first time the Pierson-flavored "He who steals my purse steals trash; but he who borrows my Directory steals that which enriches him but makes me poor indeed," duly credited to Shakespeare, appears on the back of the almanac page. Some years later the qualifying "if empty" was inserted after the "steals trash." Ultimately this amended version appeared right under the excellent likeness of Pierson, which graced the directories as frontispiece from 1848 through 1862.

Starting in the 1837 issue, too, is a feature rather misleadingly labeled "Advertisement" and therefore apt to be overlooked. Yet it is this that gives the earlier Newark directories a distinctive and revealing personal flavor and zest rare if not unique in their field. For here Pierson speaks his mind with almost startling but beguiling frankness about directory matters and events in general.

Appearing well to the fore of the little volumes at first, but later relegated to the rear, these "editorial labors" (as he came to call them) bristle with italics and emphatic capitals. They ring in quotations in the best oratorical manner of the day. Sometimes they exhort, and sometimes they moralize, much as the author's famous ancestor, the Reverend Abraham Pierson, must have done from his Newark pulpit. And they always end with a punch line. No matter what one may be consulting the directories for, these "Advertisements" by the compiler are well worth a side glance.

Twelve hundred and fifty copies of the 1837 directory were published at one dollar each, but only about six hundred were disposed of and by no means all of these were paid for. "So that

all the money I shall receive from the sales will not pay the expense of the edition", Pierson mourned. Times were bad and getting worse, beginning a depression that was to last until well into the 1840s. The directory was still far from yielding him a living, and his own advertisements show that he was doing business writing as usual, as well as house numbering ("Gilt 50 cents-Common 35 cents") to make ends meet.

Those who knew the inside story must therefore have been rather surprised when the following notice appeared in the Newark *Daily Advertiser* on December 21, 1837:

The first of January next I purpose to see if the city of Newark will sustain the Directory; and if I can get a sufficient number of subscribers I will go ahead with it, and I dont mean to publish another edition for glory. I intend to publish only as many as I have a responsible subscriber for. In times like the present it is necessary to sleep with one eye open.

He must have received sufficient encouragement to make him believe Newark would support a fourth edition, for he got the 1838 manuscript ready as usual. One may imagine the shock to him when not one of the four Newark presses would take on the printing of it, fearing that they would not be paid. This was something he never dreamed could happen. It was not only the threat to his directory that upset him; it was rather the implied slur against his honesty.

But if the printers thought this setback would stop him, they were soon to be proved poor judges of their man. Benjamin Thompson Pierson was "not one who surrenders." He marched himself and his precious directory manuscript right over to the shop of the man who printed the New York City Directory: G. P. Scott, at the corner of Fulton and Gold Streets. Scott listened to his story, had a good look at his face, and took on the job of printing the Newark Directory for 1838 without any further references or security.

So much for honesty, as Pierson would say. He certainly prided himself on it. Yet who else would have shown it as he did in this newspaper notice in the 1840s:

On my directory business four or five days since, some man gave me his silver pencil. The owner can have it by proving property and paying for this ad.

"My fourth edition . . . is only five hundred which I do hope will sell without any difficulty or having the word TRUST named," he wrote in the editorial section of the new issue, and no wonder. "$180 is owing me on the previous edition which would be of great service to me now. I have not crowded anyone to pay me as the times have been uncommonly hard; but I think now those who have *wintered* well, might pay up so trifling a sum without injury to their families; for it is hoped no one will have the hardihood to suppose that I can work for nothing and find myself."

He is now giving all his time to directory matters, including the numbering of houses. He has done his best to make the directory "as perfect and interesting as the nature of the case would permit," and he "fondly hopes the inhabitants of Newark will feel themselves in honor bound to sustain so indispensible a work." They evidently did. The 1838 edition appeared in May (as did most of the subsequent editions), and it was all sold.

Mr. Scott again did the printing of the 1839 edition of six hundred copies, and again all were sold. Pierson had put up fourteen hundred house numbers in the course of that year. Before that, twelve families on Orange Street had given addresses "near High," and seventy-five families on High Street had been listed near one of the cross streets, to cite only a few such instances. So his numbering was a great improvement.

Nothing But Gloom

In 1840 there was "nothing but gloom and thick darkness," as Pierson picturesquely put it. Business conditions were distressingly bad in the whole country and he was on the point of giving up the directory, but "for the credit of the city" he decided to go ahead with it anyway.

That year Scott asked for the job of printing it. But now, it appeared, Newarkers refused to buy the directory unless it was printed in Newark! So Newark's Aaron Guest did the printing in 1840 and continued until 1849, when he went west and Stephen Holbrook took it on.

The "Runner's Guide to the Streets of Newark" appeared for the first time in the 1840 issue, and was subsequently revised from time to time to keep it up to date. While the streets did not always develop according to the official plans, on the whole the "Guides" are surprisingly accurate.

There were fewer names listed than in 1839, for many had left the city to seek employment elsewhere. The wonder was that more had not gone, "for who," Pierson's advertisement asked, "can live on wind?" His own family must have come near doing that, for it would take an edition of fifteen hundred copies to net him an even moderate return, and he had been compelled to keep the number at six hundred again. And that was not his only worry.

Besides doing more house numbering than in the previous year, for which he sometimes was not paid, he had also put up a number of street signs. A substantial sum was still owed him for this, and not only could he not collect it, but the City Council ignored his claim. Yet he was really doing a public service that was much needed. It certainly was discouraging.

He had done his full duty and more, he declared. Now, unless the citizens of Newark did theirs by not only buying but also paying for the book, "they may WHISTLE for the next DIRECTORY."

Things were no better in 1841. Sixty or seventy copies of the small edition of 1840 remained unsold. And the sudden death of William Henry Harrison, the first of our Presidents to die in office, did not help improve the generally poor business conditions all over the nation.

Pierson thought it "only fitting" to cut down his annual personal comments in the directory to half a page that year, to make room for the black-bordered half-page tribute to the deceased President, which concludes with THE MEMORY OF THE JUST IS BLESSED. He reminds Newarkers that "hope keeps the heart whole," but adds with typical Pierson fervor that sometimes the troubles and perplexities of the last four years of directory work had made his "well nigh explode."

"Prompted by the belief that at some future day (should I

live), I would make something handsome of it," he writes in the 1842 directory, "I pushed forward with the arduous task with all my powers, determined or to make or break."

Pierson was now pursuing his chosen life work, the Newark Directory, with the zeal that had brought a lung hemorrhage upon him in his younger days, when he tried to "make or break" records with the scythe and cradle on his father's Morris County farm. Hovering behind that seemingly morbid "should I live" was a very real threat that he might not.

What with the "tomfoolery and murderous actions" going on in Congress, and rents and exchange rates so high, and the protective tariff bill unpassed, and *"Congress doing nothing for the country,"* conditions were so uncertain that business men were afraid to commit themselves to anything, and even the regular list of directory subscribers decreased. But Pierson went bravely on.

He concludes his 1842 editorial by thanking the citizens of Newark for their liberal patronage "through the *years of peril* that have *tried men's souls,"* and hopes they won't desert him at this late hour. MY FRIENDS, COME TO THE RESCUE, he pleads in a last punch line. Ten years later he would urge, NEWARKERS, QUIT YOURSELVES LIKE MEN.

An innovation in 1843 and 1844, which some researchers wish he could have made a permanent feature, was a list by streets of the new and remodeled houses and their owners during the fifteen months preceding April 1st of those years. But the annual number of new buildings alone increased so much in Newark after 1844 that only the total number on a given street could be listed, later the total for each ward, and ultimately the total for the whole city.

Prices for farm products were fantastically low in the early 1840s. The directory quotes potatoes at fifty cents a bushel, eggs at three or four cents a dozen, beef two cents a pound, pork one cent a pound, butter six cents a pound and fowls fifty cents a dozen. Everything seems to have been in good supply except ready money.

After listing "the Executive Army of seven hundred men" employed in Washington and their salaries, "that you may see where our money goes," Pierson exclaims, "No wonder the Treasury is bankrupt! When we add to this the thousands of *Sub* and *Leg* Treasurers in the United States the story is told." What would he think of today's monumental spending?

Once in the early 1840s he coyly reminds the ladies that the coming February has twenty-nine days; but perhaps that was just a bit of sugar-coating for some "painful remarks" that follow. It seems that a number of females who had had their names in previous directories refused to give them for the 1843 issue. Their excuses: "Anyone who wants to see me knows where I live," or "I don't want my name so conspicuous." "Whew!," he fumes. "Either of them would be glad to get a chance of charging someone from three to six dollars a week for their services. It, to my mind, shows a *weakness*." Moreover, judging by the number of daily requests he received for the whereabouts of females employed in the various branches of the drygoods business, he is forced to conclude that "we have been in many cases *shamefully* and *wilfully* misinformed." Shame on those ladies!

In conclusion, all he asks is that Newarkers DO UNTO ME, AS THEY WOULD OTHERS SHOULD DO UNTO THEM, and reward his labors by buying and paying for the directory on delivery.

Brightening Along the Passaic

Conditions having improved during 1844, Pierson took a chance and published a few more copies than previously. His personal comment that year ends in this breathless ninety-odd-word sentence:

There is not a man beside me in *Newark* that would have kept the *Directory alive* in such trying times as I have been compelled to *encounter,* and now the circumstances and conditions of everyone having *(by Providence)* been so far *ameliorated* and everything appears to be moving on so *harmoniously,* the countenances of all look so cheerful and happy, *I exhort one and all to keep sober* and be satisfied with DOING WELL, that we may look forward with pleasing anticipation that we will be BLESSED IN OUR BASKETS AND IN OUR STORE.

In spite of all the new construction, year after year there were many Newarkers who could not find a house or even part of a house to live in and had to leave town, "which ought not so to be," Pierson declared. But he also pointed out that during the 1840s many wealthy New Yorkers were moving in, and fine homes were being built along the Passaic and in the Clinton section.

The excellent likeness of Pierson which was to grace all succeeding issues as frontispiece appeared for the first time in the 1848 directory. That year the book also contained a full-page tribute to ex-President John Quincy Adams, who had died in February, and it ended with a description of the Newark ceremonies in Adams' honor.

The 1849 issue came out twelve days earlier than usual, "which is a great desideratum where there are so many changes," Pierson felt. This was due to his new system of having all the printing except the names done in advance—another instance of how he kept striving to make his directory the best of its kind.

Like unexpected plums in a pudding, useful and (to us) entertaining little oddments were tucked in here and there in the earlier issues—remedies for wasp sting and scarlet fever, preventives for moths and mosquitos, even occasional recipes for what one suspects may have been favorite dishes the editor himself enjoyed, such as "soused tripe" and "pudding in haste," with its Yankee Doodle reminder.

Typical of the days when one learned by rote, and even Bible data were put into rhyme to make them easier to memorize, is the quaint "Books of the Bible in Verse" in the 1840 issue, beginning:

> The great Jehovah speaks to us
> In Genesis and Exodus . . . .

And so it went on, year by year. New churches, new hotels, new fire apparatus, new wards with their boundaries, new maps as the city expanded—one of them showing the wards in color, "which will be found a handsome appendage to the book"—, as well as items about the city, the State, and sometimes the

national government. Pierson was particularly proud that his annual estimates of Newark's population tallied so well with official figures, and he never tired of explaining how he calculated them.

The same difficulties plagued him almost to the last: getting all the names for each dwelling and having them spelled correctly, having all buildings numbered, getting new advertisements, withdrawals and renewals in on time, coping with a variety of human foibles, and always and forever getting people to buy and pay for the directory promptly "without grumbling and without mentioning trust or barter."

Directory notices were always published well in advance of the early spring date when the canvassers were sent out, so that Newarkers would be prepared with the required information. One year Pierson even published the names of his canvassers. In 1847 he boasts, "As regards collecting the names, I assert it is *well* done, for I do *all* the work myself and consider it a great *feat*. And if any names are not found in my Directory that are here, and ought to be in, I am not to blame; for I have done all that any one man could do to get them all and have them spelled right."

But Newarkers persisted in sending children or servants to the door to answer the canvasser's questions, with resultant inevitable mistakes. And there were always householders and boarding-house keepers who omitted some of the names of the adults within. To be greeted on the second or third trip for the missing names with the bland, *"Law suz,* they are here but I did not think of them," was far from soothing. "This has been going on for twenty-one years," Pierson's editorial all but screamed in 1855. *"It is too trying."*

Trials of a Publisher

Sometimes he had to do the best he could by guesswork. ". . . and if I have *guessed* it *well,* and if not *well* . . . I have done my whole duty and do not mean to be *catechised why this* or *that* was not done."

Then too, there were always some who gave deliberately false information, and many who refused to give their names. Pierson had his opinion of people like that. "All I want to Know of any man is that he refuses to have his whereabouts known—to all such beware." It really was not his fault that sometimes his directories were as much as a thousand names short.

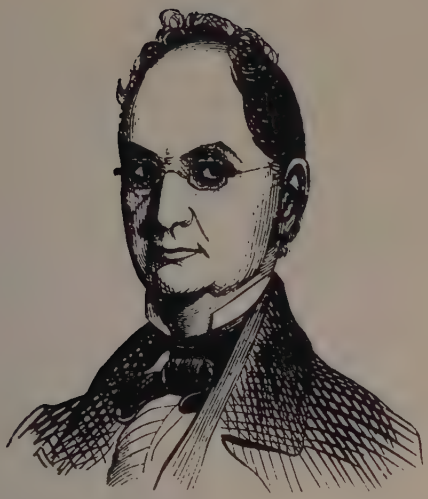
There were also *"those ladies who give their names as widows,* who are not widows." They must not expect him to send a man to see whether they are in truth widows, he warns. "This has been done often and I am blamed for it."

Try as he did to make the listings correct and complete, year after year the postmaster and others complained of omissions and errors for which he was in no way to blame. After eighteen years of this he concluded they always would. But it was "perplexing and unsufferable," and it did rankle, so much so that one year after the usual explanations he burst out *"and if anything should be wrong I want no Lip or abuse from anyone."*

It was the same with laggard advertisers. They had absolutely no excuse for not being on time, for Pierson ran several special notices for advertisers in the newspapers two or three months in advance each year. But every year some were caught, and complained or refused to pay for advertisements that were not withdrawn before the deadline. And he once had to threaten that any one who did him out of pay for an advertisement "will never have the chance again until all arrearages are paid in *full."*

There were grumblers about his advertising rates too, and more than once Pierson had to remind such that directory advertisements were good for a whole year, not just for a few days or so as were those in the newspapers.

Years after the first directory came out he was still campaigning for the numbering of all Newark buildings, still urging that the City Council have all the new streets officially measured and have cheap numbers placed on all the new houses on them. Better numbers could replace these later, he suggested, if the owners wished. But when he died in 1862, one fifth of the houses in Newark had no numbers, and not only the numbers but the names of streets were in confusion worse confounded.



B. T. PIERSON'S

DIRECTORY OFFICE,

17 Court Street.

He who steals my purse steals trash (if empty); but he who borrows my Directory steals that which enriches him, but makes me poor indeed. *Shakespeare.*

Entered according to Act of Congress, in the year 1860, by
B. T. PIERSON,
In the Clerk's Office, District of New Jersey.

FRONTISPIECE: 1860 Directory of Newark, N. J. *(Photostat courtesy of the Newark Public Library, Newark, N. J.)*

Streets of the same name existed in widely separated parts of the city. Some had been re-named without being re-numbered (Pierson himself had re-numbered some, running the risk of not being paid for it). In some cases the same numbers were repeated several times in the same street, and often odd numbers were side by side with even. Broad Street, the city's main thoroughfare, was a serious offender on that score.

To complicate matters further, some houses were numbered according to personal whims of the owners—for the number on an insurance policy, or on a tax bill, for example, or for the number of a disbanded fire company to which the owner had belonged, and even in one case for the age of a deceased daughter.

Oddly enough, this confusion was something Pierson did not rail against. His unending crusade was to have all streets marked with a legible sign and all buildings numbered. It was his successor Folwell and Holbrook who raised the hue and cry against these conditions and finally brought about a city-wide reform in 1868.

There was a loud protest when the price of the directory was raised to a dollar in 1837. People said they could get a whole wagonload of books that size for a shilling. Time and again the harrassed compiler demonstrated by actual figures, not only in his own directory "Advertisement" but sometimes even in the columns of the Newark *Daily Advertiser,* how costs were rising, how much the subscribers were getting "all ALL for one dollar," and how little there was in it for him, sometimes even a deficit.

Twice in the 1850s he had to increase the price again, first to $1.25, then to $1.50 a copy. His book had now increased to five hundred pages, "and for taste and arrangement of matter it cannot be beat by any book of the kind in any city," he boasted. By the 1860s the price had risen to $1.75.

He had gradually increased the annual output to a thousand copies, but the increase in sales was not keeping pace with the increased cost of production. Twenty years after he started the directory he was still giving data to prove the income from it, "instead of making me rich enough to retire, has yielded me only *scanty* support, notwithstanding many people thought I

was *coining* money fast." He learned the hard way that "in this Beautiful city of Newark anyone who is willing to work can earn enough to make *both* ends *meet,* and have something left over at the end of the year, if *economy* is practised."

Getting people to pay for the directory promptly and in cash was a continual headache for him. "Some run away, and some returned the book after using it from six to nine months." And there were always those who kept him running for his money, till it often cost him more than the price of his book to collect.

In the later editions his unique personal comments simmered down to about a page. The acid barbs, the blunt forthrightness, the bristling italics and capitals, the rhetorical pleas spice them less and less. The years of worrisome effort were telling.

There came a year when he tried a milder, more tactful, purchase-and-payment appeal. Or was it perhaps only veiled sarcasm when he wrote, "I *respectfully request* all to have the money ready, and not detain me to read the book through before buying, but buy it, pay for it, and then read it at your leisure"?

The 1862 directory came out in June, about a month later than usual, though his editorial for it was dated May 1. This time he asked for payment on delivery "if possible." It was the last personal directory "advertisement" he was ever to pen, for Benjamin Thompson Pierson died of consumption on June 18, 1862, in his sixty-ninth year. He had fought a good fight and a surprisingly long one against great odds.

Funeral services for him were held in the lecture room of the Third Presbyterian Church, of which he had been a member for many years, on South Broad Street in Newark. He was laid to rest in grave No. 27, Section D, in the cemetery of "Old First" Presbyterian Church in Newark. It was a fitting resting place for a lineal descendant of one of the four sons of the Reverend Abraham Pierson, the beloved pastor of Newark's earliest church.

"He was an honest man"

As was the custom in colonial days, when families were apt to be too large to subsist on the home acreage, Pierson's great-

grandfather had left Newark in the early seventeen hundreds with a group of other young Newarkers to carve a homestead of his own out of the wilderness "west of the mountain." So the publisher of these early Newark directories was born in the home of his ancestors on the old Sussex Road, two and a half miles beyond Morristown, on September 21, 1793. There he spent the first half of his life. His father was David, his mother Abigail Thompson Pierson (which explains Benjamin's middle name).

He was a bright lad, eager to excel, getting what education he could in the local school during the winter months. It speaks well for the quality of that early training and his own intense application that he became an accomplished penman, good at figures and clear in expression.

Farming, never an easy life, he must have found difficult and frustrating; getting ahead in that business was maddeningly slow, especially for a man with weak lungs. Whatever the reason, he was well along in his thirties when he married the widow Mrs. Paulina Gale in 1828. They had only two children, but whether they were his or by his wife's first marriage is not known.

The mineral spring craze was at its height at the time of his marriage. His excitement may be imagined when in 1829 water from a spring on his farm proved chalybeate and "good for the sick." In view of this asset, situated where people could easily reach it on the Oswego stage which passed once a day, taking boarders in need of the mineral spring treatment looked to him like a sure way to prosperity at last.

The venture evidently failed after only one season. PIERSON'S MINERAL SPRING HOUSE, formerly run by Benjamin Thompson Pierson, was advertised for sale in the summer of 1830, and it was good-by to Piersonville and the old home farm for the sadly disappointed owner. Sometime in the early 1830s he seems to have left his birthplace and sought a livelihood in Newark, where he remained for the rest of his days.

He may have reached it on one of the Oswego stages that had helped swell his hopes of success for the mineral spring venture.

He would then have landed at the old Eagle Hotel a little north of the corner of Broad and William Streets, which had been a landmark in Newark since colonial days.

In a way this was a sort of return to the home of his ancestors. He fell in love with the town they had helped to found, and his Newark directories are a symbol of that devotion. What with the completion of the Morris Canal, and the New Jersey Railroad about to establish quicker transit to and from the ferries to New York, and steam replacing water power in industry, the Newark he came to was seething with change and expansion and new enterprises.

Farms near and in the town were being cut up into streets and building lots. New dwellings were rising fast, but not fast enough to meet the needs of the growing population. "Elegant rows of buildings" were replacing the old single detached houses on the principal streets, and Newark was beginning to look the part of the chartered city it became in 1836. The old Eagle Hotel itself would soon give way to the impressive new City Hotel, which was planned to equal or eclipse New York's famous Astor House.

Regular passenger service on the New Jersey Railroad and Transportation Company began about 1833 or 1834, and we find Benjamin Thompson Pierson serving as Newark ticket agent for the road, probably one of the first if not the first railroad ticket agent in the city. He cannot have held the job very long, for he had launched out for himself doing "business writing in general," in an office in the Asa Whitehead Building at 350 Broad Street, when he took over the publishing of Newark's first directory in 1835; and he is listed in that as accountant.

To many of his Newark contemporaries he seemed just an average, quiet, unassuming citizen, devoted to his home and family, very faithful to his church, and frugal and temperate in his habits. But that was only one side of the picture.

It was the other side, his almost fanatic devotion to his directory, and certain peculiarities such as those shown in his annual directory comments and occasional newspaper notices, that made him stand out from the rank and file. He was a rugged indi-

vidualist if there ever was one, and Newark had its full share of them in those days. He seems always to have signed himself Benjamin Thompson Pierson, too, no abbreviations, no initials. But people called him just "Thompey" anyway, showing that they liked him, queernesses and all.

"Of him it may be said that he was an honest man," concludes the article about him on the editorial page of the Newark *Daily Advertiser* the day after his death, as though that in itself were uniquely praiseworthy. The Folwell tribute in the Newark Directory for 1863-1864 also mentions this trait, which would certainly have gratified him since he so prided himself on it.

What seems to have gone unnoticed, certainly unmentioned, is the man's admirable courage and perseverance. He had soon found out that "a more perplexing business than publishing a directory cannot be undertaken, and would try the patience of Job." But he kept his going, in good times and in bad, determined that the city he loved should have one that "can't be beat." And he succeeded.

Though only of paper, his directory has proved more enduring than stone, for his twenty-eight volumes are today his only monument. The modest stone that once marked his grave in "Old First" Cemetery had either crumbled away, when sought some years ago, or had been weathered bare of the original simple inscription which gave his name and the dates of his birth and death. Now the cemetery itself has given way to a modern parking lot.

CORRESPONDENCE COLUMN: 1814

Two Excerpts

ADVERTISEMENT EXTRAORDINARY!

The subscriber takes this method to inform the public that she is a widow, and would have no objection to another husband, if she could find one of the following description: As to his age she will not be difficult; whether batchelor, with or without children, provided he is above thirty-two; nor to his circumstances if he is not a beggar. But religious, without superstition. Strict and regular in his devotions. More ready to hide, than expose his neighbor's failings. More willing to do good than receive it. A lover of his country's welfare, but no warm politician. A promoter of public good, and private interest. Sensible, without being witty; agreeable in conversation; easy in manners; mild in disposition; industrious in habit, preferring quiet home to the brawls of a tavern; just in his dealings; and have merit without appearing to know it. Learning without ostentation; courage without boasting; pride without envy; humility without debasement; benevolence without prodigality; frugality without parsimony: and willing to take her without any greater affection than respect for his merit. For as all her warmer affections are centred in her beloved ******** ******** ******** 's grave; she has nothing more to bestow. His merit, she may esteem; but his person she can never love. If a person possessing the above mentioned good qualities is wanting a wife, and willing to take her on these conditions; and allow her three days in

THIS remarkable correspondence was extracted from the Newark *Centinel of Freedom* and sent to us by Mr. Carl E. Prince, Instructor in the Department of History at Fairleigh Dickinson University. It is here reprinted with grateful acknowledgment to Mr. Prince.

a year for private devotion; two for fasting; and one for thanksgiving. Will find a favourable reception; by apply to .....
.....at No. ..... Street, where she may (in all probability) be found untill May next.

Fortune hunters, and Coxcombs, are requested not to trouble themselves: as she has no fortune; nor never possess'd that fascinating charm call'd beauty; and has arrived at an age that that short liv'd flower generally fades. She is in hopes of spending the remaining part of her days without being Envied, Flattered, or Admir'd.

—*The* [Newark] *Centinel of Freedom,* February 22, 1814.

THE WIDOW'S CHALLENGE ACCEPTED!!

Mr. Editor

Perceiving in your paper an Extraordinary advertisement of a Widow for the purpose of obtaining a husband, which husband must possess numerous qualifications before he can be admitted to that title. Now Mr. Editor, it has been the wish of my heart these three and thirty years to enter the connubial state, but fortunately in this lapse of time my eyes have not beheld, nor has my judgement pronounced the accomplishments of *any* female worthy the Honor of being my wife, except this amiable widow. She no doubt has thoroughly considered what person would contribute to her happiness, by the multiplicity of attainments which she enumerates; and I with unaffected modesty, cannot but with the boldest confidence place my signature beneath them. For permit me to say, Mr. Editor, with the greatest humility, sincerity, and sweetness of disposition, that as to learning My Lord Coke has been my instructor in Law, Sir Peter Galen, that of Physic, and the venerable John Wesley that of Divinity. That as to courage I possess it by inheritance, for my great, great, great grandfather was the Duke of Marlborough. That as to pride I have with it but little acquaintance; but with benevolence my very nature is intimate, not only for the distresses of others, but especially for their characters. With respect to my manners Lord Chesterfield is my pattern; and as to habits industry is preemin-

ent, being a legacy from my grandmother. As to political opinion, it is founded on the love of country, paramount to every other consideration, important or not.

Having thus, Mr. Editor, briefly mentioned a few particulars for the satisfaction of this charming widow, I will also state that as to situation in life, or claiming her affection; it is neither *here* nor there, but to make all things easy she may rest assured, that if I am accepted, instead of three days for private devotion, she shall be allowed six: provided she use our prayer book; for believe me, Mr. Editor, it is the best of the kind that I have ever seen. But above all this, Mr. Editor, it may not be improper to mention my name, to prevent any of the belles of this flourishing town, from presuming that I am Sir Sawney Noodle; or Major Doodle; or Sir Timothy Smockface; or My Lord Hopporgollop.

No be it known unto all men, women, and children, that I am no other than Mr. SOLOMONS, who respectfully informs the fair widow as she has not mentioned the Fair Street in which she resides, that his residence is on Hawlee-ho-Common, east side of Snake hill; to arrive at which place is to keep to the south, south west, till five roads meet, then to the left, and proceed by the track of the wheel to Deacon Squashes corn crib, and to the right until you are opposite the old pond, where stands the house of Mr. Solomons, in all its glory.

P. S. Mr. Editor, should hereafter the charming widow mention to you her residence be so very kind as to inform her, that I will wait upon her without delay."

—*The Centinel of Freedom,* March 8, 1814.

THE EDITOR'S DESK

SOME IDEAS FOR THE NEW YEAR

They order this matter better in Denmark. Here we are beset with lists and lists of books: pocket classics, mystery stories, travel sketches, science digests, Civil War romances, guides to law, medicine, psychiatry, and nonsense of all kinds—'tis a thing impossible to decide what to read. But here on our desk is a bright little pamphlet from the Danish Information Office, entitled *Danish Literature in 1959,* which describes briefly and well a few of the leading Danish books, selected by a competent critic from the vast Danish output of the year. The purpose is admirable, and so is the execution. The books, as described, are appealing; if they were in English, they would be irresistible.

Should you ask what the connection is between Danish literature and New Jersey history, we would refer you, Madam, to the department of this magazine entitled "Of Books and Things." For here may be found the distillation of the labors of our library staff, a list of current publications concerning New Jersey, which is intended to do for local history, in more condensed form, something of what the Danish Information Office does for the whole of Danish literature. We should be glad to have from our readers any suggestions for improving this feature of the magazine; indeed, we would welcome any assurance that the labor entailed in keeping the lists up to date is justified by the benefits it confers.

* * *

The Editor's recent appeal for a more lively correspondence column bore earlier fruit than he had dared to hope for. Mr. Weisenfeld's essay on Batsto in the July issue thrust pens (or typewriter keys) into several hands, and it became impossible for reasons of space to print more than a fraction of the interesting letters that resulted. A continued response of this kind from

the unseen readership should greatly enliven the magazine and measurably assist the editorial board in the discharge of its responsibilities.

It is less agreeable to have to report that, by an error, Richard Gerry Durnin's name appeared as *Durdin* in the October *Proceedings*. Professor Durnin wrote the careful review of *The Electric Interurban Railways in America* in that issue, and we regret the carelessness that permitted the error to go undetected.

* * *

On the Editor's desk, as we go to press at the start of a new year, is a remarkable address put out by Colonial Williamsburg in an attractive booklet entitled, "Will the Future Redeem the Past?" The address was delivered in June 1960 at Williamsburg by Charles Malik, former president of the United Nations General Assembly. It contains the following striking passages, which may well serve as a fitting introduction to the new year:

"Western civilization is doomed until, jolted out of its complacency, self-satisfaction, and sense of apartness, it rediscovers and reaffirms what is genuinely human and universal in its own soul . . .

". . . it is not a question of 'imposing' anything on anybody; what is genuinely human and universal is never imposed; it is awaited, welcomed, and embraced. What is non-universal in your civilization you keep to yourselves: nobody wants it . . . Asia and Africa do not want to deal only with businessmen: they crave for human and spiritual fellowship. There is no exchange of soul, there is no sharing of life and ideas, there is no community of spirit, there is no fellowship of man with man. This is Asia's and Africa's deepest challenge of the West: what have you to give me, not of your trinkets, but of your mind, not of the external husks of your life, but of the substance and marrow of your soul? I am not speaking of the requirements of any immediate emergency: I am thinking of a whole philosophy of history."

A philosophy that will bear thinking of, one may add, as the year 1961 rolls on its way.

THE MAILBOX

Batsto Revisited

To the Editor of the *Proceedings:*

Writing as a high school student on the "Death of a City" (*Proceedings,* July 1960), Lorin Weisenfeld has dutifully trod in the footsteps of his elders. In words similar to many a writer before him, Mr. Weisenfeld starts out: "The name 'Batsto,' in the Lenni Lenape tongue, meant 'bathing place.' "

As the word "Batsto" has, to my notion, a most un-Indianlike sound, I could never bring myself to mention this so-called origin in my writings about the ghost town. The Weisenfeld article was the last straw in driving me to research which might well have been developed into a PhD. thesis. Fortunately for every one, this has not been necessary.

Sparing you the details of my research, I should like to state categorically that the word comes straight from the Swedish. In fact, there is still a modern Swedish word "badstu," which means a kind of steam bath. Batsto has been spelled variously as Badsto, Badstoo, Batstoo, Batstowe. The common version "Batsto" is so close to the Swedish "badstu" as to be almost indistinguishable when spoken.

Background information on the word "badstu" has been supplied me by the office of the Royal Consulate General of Sweden. Consul R. Reuterswärd writes me that the modern word comes from "bad," which means bath, and "stuga," which means a small house or room.

So evidently Erik Mullica and his Scandinavian compatriots, among the earliest known white men in the Badstu region, brought with them in the 1650s the wholesome Swedish custom of hot steam baths.

In tribute to Mullica and his fellow explorers of 1645, should not the Badstu restoration contain a Swedish bath-house complete with steaming hot stones? And please, no more flat "a's." Badsto as in "Ah!"

ADELINE PEPPER.

Summit, N. J.
Oct. 10, 1960

To the Editor of the *Proceedings:*

I remember in my early years of historical research I was thrown off the track time and again by errors passed down by succeeding writers . . .

In "Death of a City," in the July *Proceedings,* "limestone" (p. 155) should read "limonite"; the forge on page 156 could not produce either the castings or the pig iron credited to it; the cupola (p. 157) was a remelting, not a resmelting, furnace; and Jesse Richards' grave (p. 158) is in the Methodist (not Roman Catholic) graveyard at Pleasant Mills, unless he has moved within the last three months . . .

WATSON C. BUCK.

Rancocas, N. J.
Oct. 27, 1960.

[Mr. Buck raised a number of other objections to minor points in the article, and Mr. Arthur D. Pierce, a newcomer on our Editorial Advisory Board, raised still more. We continue to believe in the wisdom of printing prize-winning school essays, nonetheless, and welcome this evidence that such essays receive the careful scrutiny of experts in the field.—Ed.]

ANTIQUER'S ATTIC

MARGARET E. WHITE

WHAT'S THAT NAME, AGAIN?

In the little town of Llanberis, snuggled in the Welsh hills not far from Carnarvon, I found a shop where native weaving was on sale. Here were wool blankets and "tapestry quilts," the latter woven in the snowball designs so familiar in American hand-woven coverlets. When I asked the shopkeeper for the names of the patterns he shook his head, explaining that designs are handed on from one generation to the next, their origin and designation lost in obscurity. These "tapestry quilts" with their traditional patterns and colors are used as bedcovers, curtains or floor coverings. Like the Welsh blankets they are exceptionally strong, their wool obtained from hardy mountain sheep.

Why the term *quilt* for a bedcover woven on a loom? This point interested me, for the word quilt had its origin in the Old French *cuilte,* meaning a stuffed mattress or cushion, and later came to indicate a coverlet of two thicknesses with a filling of wool, cotton, or the like. While traveling around the British Isles I found the term *quilt* used indiscriminately for bedspreads whether loom-woven or stitched by hand. The distinction we, in America, make between the two types of bedcover seems to be unknown in Britain. (For reference to hand-woven coverlets see "Antiquer's Attic," April, 1954).

To Americans the distinction between a hand-woven coverlet and a quilt of patchwork or applique seems clear, but try to tell some one the name of your quilt pattern and what happens? Mention the "Star of LeMoyne," for instance, and a New Englander will look puzzled and then exclaim, "Oh, you mean the Lemon Star." Refer to a "Box Quilt" and you will be told that such a pattern should rightly be called "Baby's Blocks," "Cube Work," "Tea Chest," "Pandora's Box," or even, if the blocks are carefully shaded, "The Heavenly Steps." Just how old this pattern is I do not know, but I saw a handsome example spread on an 18th-century four-poster when visiting an English abbey. In the Newark Museum's collection is a "Box Quilt" made in the opening years of the 19th century for, or by, a bride-to-be of Devonshire, England.

On the European continent and in Britain the earliest quilts were neither pieced nor patched; their tops were made from lengths of silk, satin, fine French calico or India chintz. The Museum has a beautiful example of an English quilt made about 1700, with a top of

ivory white satin, a lining of China silk, and an interlining or filling of lamb's wool, the three layers quilted together. Flowers in natural colors are embroidered over the quilting stitches. The New Jersey Historical Society has a quilt of about 1800, made from an English copperplate print showing the "Apotheosis of Franklin."

Doubtless, quilts and feather beds (mattresses) were among the household furnishings brought to our wilderness by the first settlers, as quilts were essential for warmth. But the pioneer woman who needed more quilts for her family had, first, to supply the materials. In those early days there was no way to buy commodities in our colonial settlements; one made what was needed or ordered requirements sent from abroad. So the good housewife wove what she could from her limited supply of wool, cotton or flax fibres. Other fabrics were brought by sailing vessel from England or France—and those were costly. Gentlemen imported beautiful materials for their own coats and breeches and the gowns of their wives and daughters. Snippets of fine velvet, silk, or calico were cherished and went into the making of a handsome counterpane to be spread on top of a bedstead. Thus in city mansion and pioneer cabin the scrap bag became an essential item, for in it scraps of linen, wool, imported muslin and chintz were stored until needed to piece a quilt top.

From being a stern necessity, the quilt changed in more affluent years to a pleasurable creative outlet. By the 1840's—along the Atlantic seaboard, at least—yard goods were available at the general store, and the pieced quilt top, concocted from small patches of material sewed together, expanded into one with striking designs in applique. Pioneer women who had moved westward were not so fortunate, however. In the wilderness of Missouri and Arkansas the scrap bag was still a necessity, even though women might have access to choice things sent upstream by flatboat from New Orleans.

As quilt patterns migrated from south to north, or westward from the sea coast, their names underwent curious changes. Mention has already been made of the "Star of LeMoyne," which seems to have originated in the South before 1750. The name LeMoyne derives from the brothers Pierre and Jean Baptiste, French colonists. Pierre LeMoyne founded the colony of Louisiana, his younger brother serving as its Governor from 1701 to 1712 and again in later years. It was Jean Baptiste who founded New Orleans in 1718, and in whose honor a quilt pattern was named. A century later the same design was still popular among northern quilt makers, who called it "The Lemon Star"; doubtless, the name LeMoyne meant nothing to them.

In a household which rose with the sun and cherished every bit of daylight, whose men guided their wanderings by the movements of sun and stars, it is not surprising that these heavenly bodies supplied

the chief designs for patchwork quilts. A "Blazing Star" formed the basis of a New England pattern which came to be known as "The Ship's Wheel." The star with its rays extending outward could be interpreted as a wheel with steering handles to be grasped by a sailor. But when this design moved westward with pioneers who settled in Iowa or Kansas, "The Ship's Wheel" lost its meaning; on the prairies the design became a "Blazing Sun" which ripened the grain.

About 1800 the "Bear's Paw" was popular in Ohio and Pennsylvania. The same design on Long Island was known as "Duck's - Foot - in - the - Mud," and certainly the design resembles a duck's foot as much as it does a paw. In Philadelphia the same pattern was called the "Hand of Friendship"!

The "Variable Star" is an old pattern which changed its name about 1844. In *Old Patchwork Quilts and the Women Who Made Them* Ruth Finley says of this pattern, "Four years after the Tippecanoe Campaign when the burning question of the annexation of Texas wrecked the political hopes of Calhoun of South Carolina and Clay of Kentucky and placed the dark-horse James K. Polk in the presidential chair, this 'Variable Star' pattern, handed down from generation to generation of needlewomen, was definitely rechristened 'The Lone Star' or 'Texas,' by which name it is still generally known."

After 1850 the "Wheel of Fortune," a design popular in both coverlets and quilts, became the "Road to California." As we follow in thought the westward migrations of the 19th century, our imaginations create vivid pictures of the covered wagons, Indian raids, hardships and indomitable courage of the times.

"The Star of Bethlehem," illustrated here, is a good example of the creativity that can go into a quilt top. Note the effect of pulsating light produced by the nice combining of light and dark patches. Each diamond-shaped piece in the star measures four by one-and-three-quarter inches. Each point measures three feet three inches from the center of the star to the outer tip. The wide border is of glazed chintz, as are the appliqued figures, the edges of the latter being neatly buttonholed. Careful planning and many stitches went into this quilt top, for the pieces of calico had to be cut exactly to size and all seams had to be of the same width in order to produce a perfect star. The many pieces may have served as a record of summer gowns which had made their last appearance as such. The quilt top was made at Perth Amboy, New Jersey, in the late 18th century, and is now in the Newark Museum's collection.

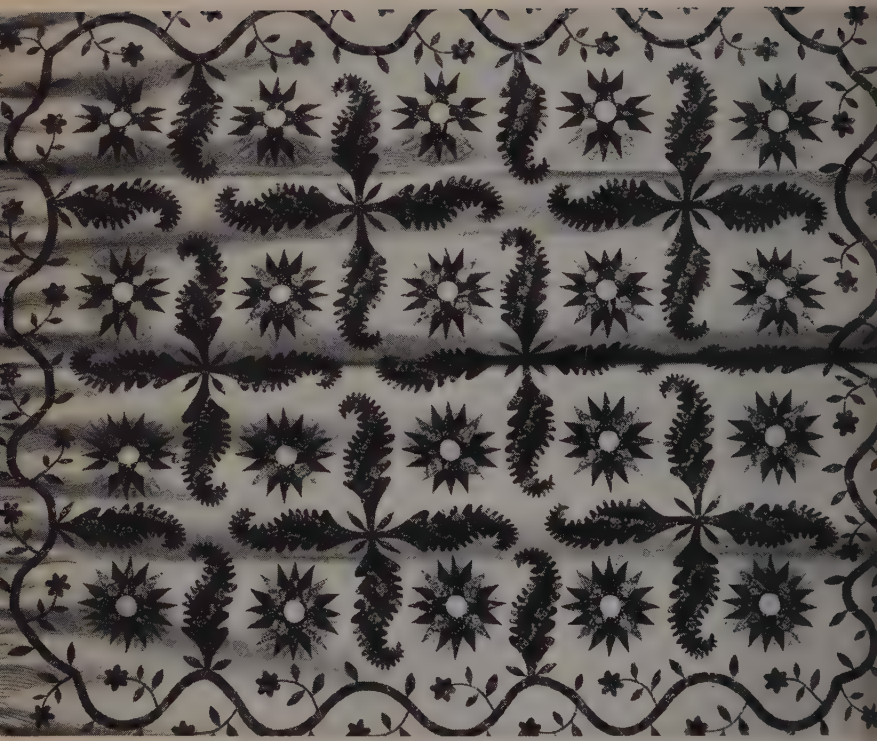
The New Jersey Historical Society has a number of quilts made in our State. One is the work of Sarah Hollingshead of Mount Holly, who was born in 1783 and made her quilt in 1797 at the age of 14, perhaps for her hope chest. Another belonged to Senator Aaron

Kitchell, who was born in Hanover, 1744, and died there in 1820; in typical American fashion, Kitchell began as a blacksmith and served in the United States Senate during 1805-1809. One of the Historical Society's quilts, showing American and foreign flags of 1875, was made in Newark for the Philadelphia Centennial; this quilt has the distinction of having been patented on December 28, 1875, the only patented quilt the writer has ever come across.

"The Princess Feather" and "Rising Star," owned by the Museum and illustrated here, is an excellent example of patchwork and applique. Each "Rising Star" is pieced, while the "Princess Feather" and meander border are appliqued. The quilt was made by Mrs. Catharine A. Fitzgerald of Newark and her sisters. Mrs. Fitzgerald's husband, Joshua, was in business in this city from 1838 until his death in 1856, and in the 1860s Mrs. Fitzgerald was living at 343 Washington Street. Only expert quilt makers would have attempted to execute such an elaborate all-over design as this. The edges of the appliqued figures are beautifully overcast, and the curved lines of the quilting are extremely neat and symmetrical. Small wonder that the quilt won three state prizes in New Jersey. The "Princess Feather," also known as "Ostrich Plume" and "Spanish Feather," was a favorite device for either an appliqued or a quilting pattern. In fact, one finds it used more often as a quilting stitch than in patchwork. It is said to have originated in Northumberland, England, and to have had its inspiration in the sweeping plumes of gay Court costumes.

Perhaps a word should be said regarding quilting stitches. To quilt means to stitch or to sew together at frequent intervals in order to confine in place the several layers of cloth and wadding. Quilting was done not only on bedcovers, but also on women's skirts, on curtains, or the lining of a wrap. When a bedcover was ready for quilting, the edges of lining and top were fastened to the quilting frames with a wadding, or fill, spread evenly between them. Quilting frames were homemade on the principle of a modern curtain stretcher, and along the edges of the wooden strips was tacked heavy cloth, such as ticking, to which the edges of the quilt could be pinned or basted. Hold a Northern quilt to the light and you are apt to see dark flecks indicating that cotton seeds were left in the interlining. In the South, where slaves were plentiful, seeds were usually removed from the raw cotton. Many and beautiful designs went into the quilting stitches. As already said, the "Princess Feather" was a prime favorite. So also were the shell or cloud pattern, the lover's knot, various leaves and flowers. Less frequently seen are the pineapple—symbol of hospitality—the twisted rope, or the swastika. The last named was an ancient symbol brought over from Germany and believed to represent

"Star of Bethlehem" quilt made at Perth Amboy, possibly during the Revolutionary period. Given to the Newark Museum by Mrs. Lewis G. Phillips. *(Photograph courtesy of the Newark Museum, Newark, N. J.)*



Pieced and appliqued quilt made and used by Mrs. Joshua Fitzgerald of Newark in m
19th century. Design "Rising Sun" and "Princess Feather" with meander border. Given
the Newark Museum by Miss Vivian Gordon.

(Photograph courtesy of the Newark Museum, Newark, N. J.)

the sun. One sees the whirling swastika painted on Pennsylvania-German barns, and in quilts it usually appears in those of Pennsylvania origin.

Sometimes the name of a quilt pattern is determined wholly by the placing of shaded blocks in relation to each other, as in "Log Cabin," "Barn Raising" or "Straight Furrow." Every colonial home had at least one of these geometrically arranged quilts. Usually they were constructed from lengthwise scraps of wool or cotton, and a quilt made from scraps of silk was highly prized, to be used as a counterpane for "company best." In the Delaware Valley and in Pennsylvania log cabins were built by Swedes and by German immigrants familiar with the log houses of the Black Forest or of Switzerland. Isaac Weld of Dublin, traveling through rural districts of Pennsylvania at the end of the 18th century, commented on the rough log cabins he encountered. Perhaps that is why the "Log Cabin" design is thought to have originated in Pennsylvania.

Of purely social significance are the three types known as the "Friendship," the "Album" and the "Freedom Quilt." The Newark Museum has both a "Friendship" and an "Album Quilt" made in New Jersey. Following a girl's engagement some friend or, perhaps, her mother would arrange a Friendship Medley Surprise Party. Each guest brought her own materials for her block, but the hostess provided material for the set — either plain squares or strips by means of which the finished blocks were joined together to form the top. Guests had to work fast, for no two blocks could be alike, yet they had to be finished and all set together before supper was served. The boys were invited, of course, to share the repast and join in games during the evening. Out of this idea grew the "Freedom Quilt" in celebration of a boy's twenty-first birthday. The "Album" might be regarded as the twin of the "Friendship Quilt," since it, too, had individual blocks contributed by various friends. The "Friendship Quilt" in the Museum's collection is dated 1876 and belonged in the Demarest family of Bergen County. The "Album Quilt" was made at New Vernon between 1856 and 1862 and presented to the Rev. Elias N. Crane, minister of the First Presbyterian Church of New Vernon. Each of the 36 blocks contains names and sentiments written in ink, presumably by members of the congregation.

In the quaint and often beautiful designs of American quilts one can trace the history of our country's settlement and growth. These abstract designs are as modern as though created yesterday and adapt themselves gracefully to the contemporary home. It is this suitability of quilts to modern country living, and the opportunities they offer for creative expression, that provide a continuing interest in quilt making.The Museum's collection of quilts ranges in date from the 18th century to the 1950s.

OF BOOKS AND THINGS

FROM THE LIBRARY

WILLIAM H. GAINES, JR.

WALTER Evans Edge has told his own story in *Jerseyman's Journal,* published in 1948 by the Princeton University Press. Two copies of this highly readable and revealing autobiography, aptly subtitled *Fifty Years of American Business and Politics,* are in the Society's library, one of them inscribed by the author. Now thanks to the generosity of his widow, Mrs. Walter E. Edge of Princeton, a significant portion of his papers has been added to our manuscript collection and is available at 230 Broadway, Newark, for consultation by students.

Mr. Edge's public career spanned the period between the presidency of William McKinley and that of Harry Truman. In that time he served as a state assemblyman and state senator, held the governorship twice, was for ten years a United States Senator, and represented his nation abroad as Ambassador to France. An ardent and open-minded Republican, he was a delegate to every national convention of the party between 1916 and 1948, and he worked zealously to strengthen its organization and to broaden its appeal to the electorate. An equally devoted citizen of his adopted state, this native of Philadelphia had a deep feeling for New Jersey's heritage, as evidenced by his successful efforts to ensure the preservation of historic Morven, once the seat of the Stockton family and now the official residence of our Governor.

The papers now in the Society's possession represent only a part of those accumulated by Mr. Edge in his lifetime, but it is expected that these will be augmented at an early date. The portion acquired thus far consists of approximately 5,000 pieces, including large scrapbooks, and comprises Mr. Edge's correspondence as Ambassador (1929-33) and as Governor of New Jersey during and after World War II (1944-47), with some letters for the period following his "retirement."

Among the correspondents represented in these papers are such prominent Republicans as Herbert C. Hoover, Henry L. Stimson, Andrew W. Mellon, Patrick Hurley and Robert A. Taft. But there is also a letter from Franklin D. Roosevelt, written when Roosevelt was Governor of New York. Among the French leaders with whom Edge was acquainted during the period of his ambassadorship, and whose autographs appear here, are Andre Tardieu, Pierre Laval, and Edouard Herriot. One item, of perhaps more interest to readers of 1961 than to Mr. Edge himself, is his acknowledgment of a political

article sent to him by a then obscure Algerian named Ferhat Abbas.

The papers, however, have an interest and a value far beyond that possessed by any mere autograph collection. The portion dealing with the ambassadorship is replete with material on Franco-American commercial and diplomatic relations during the Hoover era, particularly as those relations involved the twin issues of war debts and reparations. Letters received by Edge during this period from American embassy personnel at London and Berlin throw light on developments in Ramsay MacDonald's Britain and in pre-Hitler Germany. Notes and memoranda on the domestic mechanics of the Paris embassy provide an insight into the complex problems and expenses of maintaining a diplomatic establishment in a large capital, and may, therefore, be useful to students of the internal history of the Foreign Service. Mention might also be made of a memorandum by the Ambassador concerning his tour of French North Africa in 1933. The picture given therein of a Moslem populace, apparently reconciled to rule from Paris, provides a dramatic contrast to the despatches issuing in recent years from Algiers.

Of perhaps more interest to students of State history will be the latter portion of the papers, which contains plentiful material on political and constitutional developments in New Jersey during the 1940s. There are letters and other papers concerning the movement for constitutional reform, a movement which Edge warmly and consistently supported, and which culminated in the adoption of our 1947 constitution. Other correspondence throws light on Republican party politics in the State in the years following World War II, and on the role played therein by Mr. Edge.

Other aspects of his career are shown in the letters dealing with his interest in community affairs, both in Atlantic City—which was the center of his business enterprises—and in Princeton, where he lived during and after his governorship. Of particular interest is the correspondence concerning his efforts to preserve the Princeton battlefield site and his gift of Morven to the State.

Taken as a whole, these papers reveal an able, versatile and public-spirited citizen, who deserves well of the state and nation which he served. The Society is indeed fortunate in obtaining this uniquely valuable addition to its scholarly resources, which the graciousness of Mrs. Edge has made possible. No more fitting memorial to this devoted former member of the New Jersey Historical Society could be devised than to have these records of his life in its collections.

In other ways, in the past year, the library has continued to add to its extensive collection of books, manuscripts, and other research materials. As in the past, the primary emphasis in acquisition policy has been on works dealing, wholly or in part, with New Jersey history or some aspect thereof. Yet, in order to maintain the

collection's well-rounded character, an effort has been made to acquire newly-printed works in the field of general American history, in genealogy, and in other subjects.

The list that follows represents an attempt to acquaint readers of the *Proceedings* with the scope and nature of the library's acquisitions of printed books during the year 1959-1960. Some of these titles have been obtained through purchase; others have been gifts from members of the Society or from friends of the organization. Many of the titles below have been listed in the section "New Jersey in Print" in this and earlier issues of the *Proceedings*. Any of these books may be consulted in the library's reading room between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Tuesdays through Saturdays.

NEW JERSEY HISTORY

Colonial Churches and Meeting Houses, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware, by Philip B. Wallace (New York, 1931). Purchase.

Early Sports and Pastimes in New Jersey, by Harry B. and Grace M. Weiss (Trenton, 1960). Purchase.

Forgotten Mills of New Jersey, by H. B. and M. G. Weiss (Trenton, 1960). Purchase.

Help-Bringers: Versatile Physicians of New Jersey, by Fred B. Rogers, M. D. (New York, 1960). Purchase.

The History of Mount Holly, by Henry C. Shinn (Mt. Holly, 1959). Purchase.

History of Perth Amboy, by William C. McGinnis (2 vols., Perth Amboy, 1959). Gift of the author.

Indian Affairs in Colonial New York: the Seventeenth Century, by Allen W. Trelease (Ithaca, N. Y., 1960). Deals in part with Indian affairs in New Jersey during the Dutch period. Purchase.

Instructions for Johann Printz, Governor of New Sweden, ed. by Amandus Johnson (Philadelphia, 1930). Gift of Mrs. Thomas W. Williams.

Interview in Weehawken: the Burr-Hamilton Duel, as Told in the Original Documents, ed. by Harold C. Syrett and Jean G. Cooke (Middletown, Conn., 1960). Purchase.

An Introduction to Crime and Punishment in Colonial New Jersey, by Harry B. and Grace M. Weiss (Trenton, 1960). Purchase.

Jewish Roots: a History of the Jewish Community of Passaic (Passaic, 1959). Gift of the Jewish Community Council of Passaic.

Since 1845: a History of the Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Company, by Mildred F. Stone. (New Brunswick, 1957). Gift of the company.

Smugglers' Woods: Jaunts and Journeys in Colonial and Revolutionary New Jersey, by Arthur D. Pierce (New Brunswick, 1960). Purchase.

Speed-Up (house organ of the Submarine Boat Corp. of Newark), vols. I-V (Jan. 26, 1918-Dec. 15, 1922). Gift of A. M. Sullivan.

The Thoroughbred in New Jersey, by Nelson Dunstan (Camden, 1944). Gift of the Garden State Racing Association.

Turncoats, Traitors and Heroes, by John Bakeless (Philadelphia, 1960). An account of espionage activities during the Revolution, with much material on operations in New Jersey. Purchase.

Under Barnegat's Beam: Light on Happenings along the Jersey Shore. (New York, 1960). Purchase.

GENERAL HISTORY

The American Heritage Book of the Pioneer Spirit (New York, 1959). Purchase.

The History and Antiquities of the Town of Newark, in the County of Nottingham [England], by William Dickinson (London, 1819). Gift of Dr. and Mrs. John A. Aeschlimann.

The Jeffersonian Image in the American Mind, by Merrill D. Peterson (New York, 1960). Purchase.

Lincoln Day-By-Day: A Chronology, ed. by Earl Schenck Miers (Washington, 1960). Gift of the Lincoln Sesquicentennial Commission.

The United States to 1865, by Michael Kraus, and *The United States Since 1865,* by Foster R. Dulles (Ann Arbor, Mich., 1959). Both volumes are part of the University of Michigan's fifteen-volume *History of the Modern World.* Purchase.

BIOGRAPHY

Alexander Hamilton: Portrait in Paradox, by John C. Miller (New York, 1959). Purchase.

Edison: A Biography, by Matthew Josephson (New York, 1959). Purchase.

The Life of John Marshall, by Albert J. Beveridge (Boston and New York, 1919). Gift of Miss Mary L. Dykman.

Nathaniel Greene, Strategist of the American Revolution, by Theodore Thayer (New York, 1960). Purchase.

Nicholas Biddle, Nationalist and Public Banker (Chicago, 1959). Purchase.

The Papers of Benjamin Franklin, ed. by Leonard W. Labaree and Whitfield J. Bell, Jr. (New Haven, 1959-60). The two volumes received to date cover the years 1706 to 1744. Purchase.

Stephen Crane:Letters, ed. by R. W. Stallman and Lillian Gilkes (New York, 1960). Purchase.

A Tour through Part of Virginia in . . . 1808, by John Edwards Caldwell, ed. by William M. E. Rachal (Richmond, 1951). Caldwell was a son of the famous "fighting parson" and a foster-son of Elias Boudinot. Purchase.

Woodrow Wilson at Princeton, by Hardin Craig (Norman, Okla., 1960). Purchase.

GENEALOGY

Bacon and Allied Families, by J. Dean Bacon (Culver City, Cal., 1958). Gift of the author.

The Baylis Family of Virginia, by Mrs. Willetta B. Blum and William S. Blum (Washington, 1958). Gift of Dr. Blum.

Beach Family Reminiscences and Annals, by David Nelson Beach (Meriden, Conn., 1931). Gift of Miss Dorothea Beach.

The Bogart Family, by John Albert Bogart (Scranton, Pa., 1959). Purchase.

Byberry Waltons [of Byberry Township, Pennsylvania], by Norman Walton Swayne (Philadelphia, 1959). Gift of the compiler.

Descendants of the Jersey Settlers of Kingston, Adams County, Mississippi, by Henry B. Eaton. (Privately printed). Gift of Mrs. H. B. Drone.

The Descendants of William Neff, comp. by Dorothy Neff Curry (Privately printed, 1958). Gift of Mrs. A. K. Fisher.

Genealogical Research Methods and Sources, ed. by Milton Rubincam (American Society of Genealogists, 1960). Purchase.

The Handy Book for Genealogists, by George B. Everton, Sr., and Gunnar Rasmuson (3rd. ed., Logan, Utah, 1957). Purchase.

Our Van Horne Kindred, by Elsie O. Hallenbeck (Privately printed, 1959). Purchase.

Selover-Slover Family, 1682-1941, by Mabel Jacques Hadler (Privately printed, 1941). Purchase.

The Willson Family, 1672-1959, by Richard Eugene Wilson (Privately printed, 1959). Gift of the author.

THE ARTS

(for the Museum Collection)

American Colonial Painting, Materials for a History, by Waldron P. Belknap, Jr., (Cambridge, Mass., 1960). Purchase.

The Antiques Treasury of Furniture and Other Decorative Arts, ed. by Alice Winchester (New York, 1959). Purchase.

Index of American Design, by Erwin O. Christensen (New York, 1950). Purchase.

REFERENCE AIDS

American Library Directory (New York, 1960). Purchase.

Burke's Peerage (102nd ed., London, 1959). Purchase.

Encyclopedia of American Biography, Vol. XXX (New York, 1960). Gift of the American Historical Company, Inc.

Who's Who in America, 1960-61. Purchase.

Who Was Who in America, 1897-1960. 3 vols. (New York, 1960). Purchase.

NEW JERSEY IN PRINT

WILLIAM H. GAINES, JR.
EDITH O. MAY

BOOKS

Early Sports and Pastimes in New Jersey. By Harry B. and Grace Weiss. (Trenton: Past Time Press, 1960. vii, 148 pages.)

Gateway to a Nation: The Middle Atlantic States and their Influence on the Development of the Nation. By D. G. Brinton Thompson. (Rindge, New Hampshire: Richard R. Smith, Inc., 1956. 274 pages.)

Help-Bringers: Versatile Physicians of New Jersey. By Fred B. Rogers, M. D. (New York: The Vantage Press, 1960. 125 pages.) Reviewed in the October issue.

The Minutes of the Board of Proprietors of the Eastern Division of New Jersey from 1725 to 1744, 1745 to 1764. (Published in Perth Amboy by the General Board of Proprietors of the Eastern Division of New Jersey, September 1960. 2 vols. Vol. 2, 1725 to 1744, viixlix, 405 pages; Vol. 3, 1745 to 1764, 478 pages.)

Political Satire in the American Revolution, 1763-1783. By Bruce Ingham Granger. (Cornell University Press, 1960. xi, 314 pages.)

Smugglers' Woods: Jaunts and Journeys in Colonial and Revolutionary New Jersey. By Arthur D. Pierce. (New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 1960. xiii, 32 pages.) Reviewed in the October issue.

Under Barnegat's Beam: Light on Happenings along the Jersey Shore. By Bayard Randolph Kraft. (New York: Privately printed, 1960. xi, 120 pages.)

ARTICLES

"Cape May Glass Company," by Dorothy Torgerson and Rachel Tozour, in *Cape May County Magazine of History and Genealogy,* June 1960, pp. 239-252.

"The Cornelis H. Vreeland Homestead," by Louis B. Vreeland, in *de Halve Maen,* October 1960, p. 5.

"Dayton and Ireland of South Jersey," by Walter Lee Sheppard, in *American Genealogist,* July 1960, pp. 171-174.

"Early Education in Batsto and Pleasant Mills," by Arthur D. Pierce, in *Bulletin of the Camden County Historical Society,* June 1960, pp. 1-2.

"Further Notes on Early Furniture of New Jersey," by Margaret E. White, in *Antiques,* August 1960. Supplements an article on the same topic in the October 1958 issue.

"General Washington's Spy System," by John Bakeless, in *Man-*

uscripts, Spring 1960, pp. 28-37. Includes material on American intelligence operations in New Jersey.

"The Great Steamship Visits Cape May," by Robert C. Alexander, in *Cape May County Magazine of History and Genealogy,* June 1960, pp. 253-266. The vessel in question was the renowned *Great Eastern.*

"James Smith Haring," by George Olin Zabriskie, in *de Halve Maen,* October 1960, p. 9.

"The Jersey Glass Gaffers," by Adeline Pepper, in *The Royle Forum,* June 15, 1960, pp. 8-11.

"John Augustus Roebling and the Public Works of Pennsylvania," by Hobertis M. Cummings, in *International Affairs Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,* May 1960, pp. 22-23, 32; June 1960, pp. 24-27; July 1960, pp. 22-25; August 1960, pp. 26-29; September 1960, pp. 24-26.

"Mutiny in Middletown," by Adeline Pepper, in *Royle Forum,* September 15, 1960, pp. 11-14.

"Nicholas Longworth," by Reginald C. McGrane, in *Museum Echoes* (published by the Ohio Historical Society), August 1960, pp. 59-62. A brief sketch of the Cincinnati horticulturist and patron of the arts, who was born in Newark.

"Port Communities . . . Perth Amboy," in *Via Port of New York,* October 1960, pp. 18, 19.

"The Revenue Steamer *E. A. Stevens* in the Civil War," by R. A. Redmond, in *American Neptune,* July 1960, pp. 155-166. This warship was designed by Edwin Augustus Stevens of Hoboken.

"The Rev. Johannes Theodorus Polhemius, and Some of his Descendants," by I. Heyward Peck, in *New York Genealogical and Biographical Record,* April 1960, pp. 90-98; July 1960, pp. 174-179.

"The State with two Faces," by Roul Tunley, in *Saturday Evening Post,* July 16, 1960, pp. 11-13, 54-57.

"S. U. M.—Alexander Hamilton's Dream for an Industrial Empire," by Margaret V. Wolff, in *Royle Forum,* September 15, 1960, pp. 3-6.

"Surveying the First Railroad Across Iowa, The Journal of John I. Blair," edited by Anthony L. Cassen, in *Annals of Iowa,* Summer 1960. Third Series, Vol. XXXV, no. 5, pp. 321-362.

"That Genealogical Quagmire: New Jersey," by Kenn Stryker-Rodda, in *National Genealogical Society Quarterly,* June 1960, pp. 59-71. A discussion of the problems confronting those working in New Jersey family history.

"Thomas Pursell and his Earliest Descendants," by George E. McCracken, in *American Genealogist,* July 1960, pp. 139-148; October 1960, pp. 204-213.

Annual Report For 1960

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING

THE one hundred fifteenth annual meeting of the New Jersey Historical Society was held at the building of the Society, 230 Broadway, Newark, New Jersey, at 12 noon on Wednesday, October 26, 1960. Harry O. H. Frelinghuysen, president of the Society, presided, and Robert M. Lunny, director, acting as secretary of the meeting, kept the minutes. The Rev. Dr. Howard G. Hageman, minister of the North Reformed Dutch Church, delivered the invocation.

The calling of the roll was waived, and the secretary reported a quorum present. The minutes of the annual meeting of 1959, published in the *Proceedings of the New Jersey Historical Society,* Volume LXXVIII, January 1960, were approved without reading.

The president announced the recent appointment of a nominating committee composed of the Hon. John O. Bigelow, chairman, Mrs. Richard Hartshorne and Dr. Richard P. McCormick and that the first order of business was the election of trustees for three-year terms. Two trustees of the class of 1960, John W. Griggs and William L. Maude are not serving again. While the Nominating Committee met, the report of the Board of Trustees was read by the president.

The chairman of the Nominating Committee submitted the report, nominating Kenneth Chorley, Hiram E. Deats, Damon G. Douglas, Mrs. Joseph S. Frelinghuysen, Edward J. Grassmann, Ralph E. Lum, Jr., Henry S. Puder and Mrs. W. Clark Symington to be re-elected as members of the class of 1963, to serve for a period of three years or until their successors shall be elected and qualified. The chairman of the Committee then nominated the following to fill existing vacancies on the Board of Trustees: Dr. Henry H. Bisbee of Burlington and the Hon. Robert C. Crane of Elizabeth to the class of 1962 and Dr. Roger H. McDonough of Princeton, James E. Ransom of Westwood and Mrs. Samuel Schwartz of Paterson to the class of 1963. The nominations were seconded. It was moved, seconded and voted that the secretary cast a ballot unanimously electing the foregoing. Accordingly the nominees were proclaimed elected. The president thanked the Nominating Committee.

The following additional reports were submitted: the treasurer's by Reeve Schley, Jr.; Membership Committee by Judge Bigelow, chairman; House Committee by the secretary in the absence of Dominic A. Cavicchia, chairman; Woman's Branch by Mrs. Frederick Frelinghuysen, president;

Museum Committee by Mrs. Frederick Frelinghuysen, chairman; Library Committee by Donald A. Sinclair for the chairman, Judge Bigelow; Editorial Committee by Richard V. Lindabury, chairman; and the report of the corresponding secretary, Mrs. Joseph W. Greene.

It was moved, seconded and voted that the chairman of the Library Committee draw up a resolution of thanks to Mrs. Walter E. Edge for the gift of the papers of her late husband to the Society.

The meeting was adjourned at 1 P.M. Following luncheon many of the members stayed to hear the first two talks in the series "The Tradition of the American Home" on the general topic of the influence of the Chinese and the French on American taste.

Robert M. Lunny, *Director.*

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Once again at the close of the fiscal year I have the privilege of presenting to the members of the Society the report of the Board of Trustees. This is framed largely in the reports of the officers and the chairmen of the several standing committees of the Board and these will be heard later. There are several other matters of which you should know, however, and a thought or two on the Society and the direction it is now taking.

The fourth New Jersey Dinner was given on May 25th at the Princeton Inn following a reception at Morven of Governor and Mrs. Meyner, who have so graciously played hosts to us since the dinners began in 1957. The speaker on that evening was Carlisle H. Humelsine, president of Colonial Williamsburg, whose fine address is published in the October issue of the *Proceedings.* Another guest of honor was a former president of this Society, Dr. Richard P. McCormick, to whom we presented the New Jersey Historical Society Award for 1960 for distinguished contribution to the history of New Jersey. The other honored guest was Dr. Harold F. Wilson, the newly-elected Fellow of the Society of 1960 for his scholarly work in New Jersey history. To those of you who attend these dinners, the Society is deeply appreciative of your support; we shall constantly try to make them as enjoyable and interesting as possible.

The annual New Jersey Historical Conference was held on June 18th and 19th when the Society returned to Burlington County, where the first conference was held ten years ago. Co-sponsor was the Burlington County Historical Society, and again we were joined by the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the Museums Council of New Jersey. Theme of the Conference was "The Heart of West Jersey," featuring meetings in and tours of Mt. Holly and Burlington and the surrounding country. The distinguished speaker at the Conference Dinner on that Saturday at the Cherry Hill Inn was Dr. Walter Muir Whitehill, Director and Librarian of the Boston Athenaeum, who was making a survey of the independent historical societies throughout the country. He called his

address "History Around the Country as Seen by a New Englander," a thought-provoking and delightful appraisal of the situation of so many institutions similar to ours and how they fare in these uncertain times. The study was made for the Massachusetts Historical Society, American Antiquarian Society, Historical Society of Pennsylvania and Virginia Historical Society and was supported by a grant from the Council on Library Resources. The final report, of which Dr. Whitehill's speech at the Conference was a partial preview, is awaited as a study of greatest value to all such societies.

At the February meeting of the Board of Trustees a simple announcement was made of a "Plan for Expanded Activity" for the Society, calling for contributions totalling $100,000 for a variety of special purposes. Before summer this fund had grown in donations and pledges to $40,000. None of this amount, given so generously, is to cover operating expenses of our Society. It is all to go to forwarding our work of creating greater interest in New Jersey and its history. The results of these gifts, and those we hope will follow, will not be felt immediately, but we firmly believe that they will be prime factors in the future effectiveness of the Society.

Last year the Society published a new edition of *Juet's Journal* as Volume XII of the *Collections*. This year we have announced the publication of a facsimile of William Faden's map of New Jersey, brought out originally in London in the eighteenth century. Perhaps it is premature to mention this in the present annual report, but the response to the advance notice of the publication on November 15 is so great that it is impossible to resist telling you about it. We hope that this will be the first of a series of facsimiles from the collections of the Society—maps, prints, paintings and documents—which will continue in collaboration with Lawrence T. Clark of the Historic Publishing Company of Montclair, who is venturing into this field.

Those of us closest to the operation of this Society are entirely agreed on at least one point. Our general policy must be that of bringing to all New Jerseymen greater knowledge and appreciation of the history of our state. This cannot be achieved by any one organization in any one location. The Society must eventually expand its program to be equally effective among all men in all corners of the state. We cannot be satisfied until our Society has done its full share in furthering appreciation not only of the history of the state as a whole but of each local area from High Point to Cape May, and in furthering appreciation of the story of New Jerseymen—their occupations, religion, recreation, culture and their contribution to American civilization.

Since such broad purposes cannot be realized by any one organization, the Society is increasing its work with local historical societies, and more recently with the Civil War Centenary Commission, the New Jersey Ter-

centenary Commission and the Committee for Historic Sites Evaluation, all of which in their own ways have the same end. Together we can ride the crest of a wave of historical interest such as we may never see again for another century. The Society must take a leading, a principal, a directing part in this work. Given an organization composed of dedicated, purposeful workers who work in harmony together and with other organizations, I know we will see results. It is the kind of effort that requires contributions of whatever kind they may be from all of us.

In closing, I commend to you the three special exhibitions now current in the Museum: "Mr. President" to mark the centenary of Lincoln's inauguration and those of our other presidents, photographs of "An Earlier Jersey", and "Railroads in Color" to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the Transportation Collection. For this last we are as always deeply indebted to the Railroadians of America and to our trustee Thomas T. Taber who has produced this smash hit.

HARRY O. H. FRELINGHUYSEN, *President.*

REPORT OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE

THE House Committee is pleased to emphasize in this report that no extensive repairs to the Society's building were necessary this past year. During the summer, faulty wiring caused damage to the main sump pump required to keep an underground spring from flooding the boiler room. The necessary repairs were made.

There were two major improvements.

The indirect-lighting fixtures throughout the greater part of the building were replaced with fixtures which furnish light on a direct-indirect principle and which are therefore more efficient than the old ones. The replacement fixtures had been salvaged from the razed Prudential Insurance Company buildings, and the Society took advantage of the opportunity to purchase them at a low cost. Moreover, the installation cost was reasonable. The lighting in the building has been greatly improved. The change is a most welcome one, especially in the Library.

The New Jersey History Gallery was repainted. The new color, an off-white to correspond to the adjoining Little Gallery, has brightened the room considerably and given it an appearance of greater spaciousness than the old color afforded. This improvement was completed, fortunately, in time for the opening of the exhibition anent the history of racing in New Jersey.

Increased traffic through the Museum galleries, especially when the Transportation Exhibition has featured a special show, has added to the burdens of our custodian, George Kroeschel. The job of keeping the building clean has been well done, nonetheless; and Mr. Kroeschel is to be commended.

DOMINIC A. CAVICCHIA, *Chairman.*

REPORT OF THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

This report of the Membership Committee for 1960 contains as usual a tabulation of the number of members of the Society arranged according to classification such as Contributing, Family and so forth. These statistics for the fiscal year just ended are the best in the one-hundred-fifteen-year history of the Society.

The net increase in membership for the entire year is just a fraction above 25%. Far and away the greater part of that increase is due to the drive for new members being conducted by the Woman's Branch throughout this calendar year. As of the end of September they had obtained 432 new members.

The ladies are now directing their energy toward the collection of $5,000. in new dues since January. If that amount comes in before the end of December, this organization will collect the maximum of a matching amount — $5,000. — promised to the Society as a gift to it not only just once but every year hereafter. Need I say that each of us should try to enlist at least one new member to help reach the maximum. A prize or prizes are being offered for the most members obtained by any one person, I am told.

This campaign is being waged also by the Staff and a number of volunteers who come in faithfully to assist in checking, stuffing, sorting and stamping invitations going out in a direct mail campaign. To the Woman's Branch, the volunteers and the Staff, and especially to Mrs. Louis B. Warren who is chairman of the Membership Committee of the Woman's Branch, this Committee expresses its gratitude.

As of last April the practice was established of printing the names and towns of new members in a supplement to the *New Jersey Messenger*. A second list to the end of the fiscal year will go out with the winter issue.

Following are the delightfully encouraging figures compared with those of one year ago:

	1960	*1959*
Associate	497	333
Contributing	589	552
Family	201	91
Sustaining	115	104
Supporting	9	6
Life	99	109
Patrons	11	10
Corresponding	5	5
Fellows of the Society	3	2
Institutional	33	33

JOHN O. BIGELOW, *Chairman.*

REPORT OF THE LIBRARY COMMITTEE

DURING the past year the Library has continued to be an active arm of the Society and to provide service to historical scholars, genealogists and other visitors, as well as answering numerous inquiries for information received by mail or telephone. The number of persons who used our reading room was, however, smaller in 1960 than in 1959, falling from 1,518 to 1,320 and ranging from a high of 162 in February to 89 in May. Approximately 700 mail inquiries and over 400 requests by telephone were received.

As in the past, the great preponderance of persons using the library were engaged in genealogical research, either on their own account or for others. A substantial portion of the remainder were either graduate students working on theses or dissertations or other scholars engaged in advanced historical research. Among the topics studied were the careers of General Nathanael Greene and Mahlon Dickerson, Governor of New Jersey, the house of Joseph Bonaparte at "Point Breeze", the operations of the Whig Party in New Jersey during the *ante bellum* period, the printing activities of Benjamin Franklin and his associates, and the development of the Presbyterian Clergy in the United States. The Committee is proud that the Society's library is thus contributing, not only to knowledge of the history of our State but also to that of wider aspects of our past, and that our resources are attracting scholars in various fields.

Meanwhile our holdings have been increasing both through gifts and through purchase. A list of books acquired during the fiscal year, including new works and older titles—some now out of print—appears in the October[1] issue of the *Proceedings*.

A variety of other materials have been acquired in the year: microfilms of church records of the Holland Society, given by the Huguenot Society of New Jersey, and of the tax ratable books of Essex and Somerset counties, presented to us by the New Jersey Society, Daughters of the American Colonists. The list of donors which accompanies this report indicates the many institutions and individuals through whose generosity valuable acquisitions of all types have come to the Society.

One gift of the past year deserves more extended mention. This summer we were given a large group of the papers of the late Walter E. Edge by his widow, now a resident of Princeton. Mr. Edge was one of New Jersey's distinguished public servants, whose career included two terms as Governor of the State which were separated by more than a score of years, ten years in the United States Senate and a tour of duty as American Ambassador to France. He will also be remembered for his support of many educational and similar organizations, including this Society of which he was a member for many years. The papers now held by the Society cover only the latter part of his long career and are particularly

[1]For lack of space, publication of this list was postponed to the January 1961 issue.—ED.

rich on his Ambassadorship (1929-1933) and his second Governorship (1944-1947). This material, comprising some 5,000 pieces of correspondence and eight large scrap books, should be of value to students of such diverse subjects as Franco-American relations in the time of Hoover and of Republican Party politics in the years of Roosevelt and Truman. The Committee is most appreciative of this gift and recommends that the Society make appropriate acknowledgment to Mrs. Edge, perhaps by a formal resolution.

There have also been problems, including the perennial one of processing and cataloguing our acquisitions. Another is the converse, the selection and disposition of materials which the Society does not need. In practice it is difficult to decide how many duplicates of a volume within the area of our interest we should retain or whether a volume is outside that area. With some hesitation we have disposed of a number of volumes by a book sale at the time of the annual meeting. The sale a year ago netted nearly $700 for our Library and Museum Fund. Another lot of volumes awaits you on the tables in the South Gallery.

Another and much more serious problem is the condition of some of our books. Due to heavy usage or to the effects of age, many of our older local and family histories and Newark directories are in need of repair. Our valuable set of bound pamphlets is in particularly bad condition. But we are happy to report that the Executive Committee appropriated $2,000 last summer for the upkeep of our library, and we expect that the repairs which this sum will pay for will stop for the time being the deterioration of our printed materials.

The Library Committee hopes to arrange one or two exhibitions during the coming year; one, perhaps of maps, of which the Society has a distinguished collection, another possibly of newspapers containing accounts of some of the events of the Civil War.

We regret to report the resignation of our librarian, Dr. William H. Gaines Jr., effective at the end of this month. He is returning to his native Virginia and will take with him the good wishes of all of us who have worked with him during the period he has been our librarian. Fortunately Mrs. May, who functioned as acting librarian during the last hiatus, can be counted on to fill the breach. But the Library is too big a job for one person, and we hope to find Dr. Gaines' successor as soon as may be.

JOHN O. BIGELOW, *Chairman.*

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REPORT OF THE MUSEUM COMMITTEE

During the past year the Museum of the Society has continued its usual work and has also expanded its activity.

The most ambitious loan exhibition ever staged by the Society was called "The Thoroughbred Horse of New Jersey," sponsored with the Thoroughbred Horse Breeders' Association of New Jersey last spring and early summer. From the Society the show was taken to the Garden State Park and from there to Monmouth Park, where conservative estimates of the attendance place it at 40,000. This review of the history of thoroughbred breeding and racing in New Jersey showed them to be as old as the state and colony itself. Private collectors and museums of sporting art contributed their paintings and prints, and members of the Association donated to the Society their racing silks to make this a very colorful show indeed. The main staircase, the Little Gallery and the newly-painted New Jersey History Gallery were filled by this exhibit. A handsome booklet with numerous illustrations was written on the subject by Peter Cole and Ronald C. Weyer. The expenses were defrayed in part by contributions.

Another major exhibition, held last winter, was "Journey Through New Jersey," a show of one hundred early views of the state in prints, water colors and drawings. Material showed the wide variety from the collections of this Society and other museums, libraries and private collectors.A catalogue was written by the director of the Society, who has been interested in these scenes for some time. As a result of the exhibition, the sum of $10,000 has been pledged to the fund for "A Plan for Expanded Activity" towards the publication of a book of early views of New Jersey.

Two small shows were held: drawings and paintings of Lilly Martin Spencer, a Newark artist of the nineteenth century, and a little review of the history of Lenox, Inc., a New Jersey industry whose founder was born one hundred years ago. This is the first of what is hoped will be a series on New Jersey industries in small special exhibitions.

Last March the Railroadians of America presented a display of new material in the Transportation Collection, which opened with a film program to a capacity crowd. The Railroadians now have another special exhibit called "Railroads in Color," opening this month with four Saturday programs to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the Transportation Collection of the Society. Mayor Carlin proclaimed October to be "Railroad Month" in Newark. The success of these programs has encouraged the Railroadians to continue the Saturday motion picture shows into November for four more weeks. No larger crowds have ever come to special events at the Society. We appreciate the genuine interest and hard work of all the Railroadians, and especially that of our trustee, Mr. Thomas T. Taber, who organized both the exhibition and the programs. The present intention of the Railroadians is to present programs like these two each season.

In the new "Plan for Expanded Activity" of the Society is one item of great interest to the Museum. Thanks to the contributions of Mrs. Joseph S. Frelinghuysen and Mr. and Mrs. W. Clark Symington, plans are now being prepared for the installation of the paneling from the drawing room of Ross Hall. If everything goes well, the re-created room from that 1740 house at Raritan Landing will be opened later this season.

In addition to the special events of the Railroadians and of the Woman's Branch described elsewhere, Mr. John T. Cunningham, another trustee, lectured on "Henry Hudson: Mysterious Explorer." Mr. Cunningham wrote the introduction to the Society's edition of *Juet's Journal* published last year.

A brand-new activity in the Museum is the History Shop, started by the Staff less than one year ago and now a real feature of the Museum. There children and adults may purchase books and souvenirs, toys and gifts. It is tremendously popular with school classes. From a start of $25 borrowed capital, the shop at year's end was fully stocked and showed a

clear profit in addition of $460. Mrs. Clifford Crawbuck, who is really our membership secretary, is to be congratulated on starting and managing the History Shop so successfully.

Just as the year ended, members of the Junior League of Newark began to help voluntarily in the Society's work by sending in three ladies on a regular part-time schedule. Already they have proved invaluable in the administrative office and in the Museum, where they escort school classes and lecture to them on the exhibits. They have joined an ever-increasing group of volunteers among our own members, some of whom give one or two days a week to the Society. This is a degree of interest which will advance the cause of the Museum as much as any other. To all of these volunteers, to the staff and especially to Mr. Howard W. Wiseman, I express the thanks of the Museum Committee.

Mrs. Frederick Frelinghuysen, *Chairman.*

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REPORT OF THE WOMAN'S BRANCH

In October and November of last year the Woman's Branch in co-operation with Rutgers University held its 4th Annual Series of Talks on the American Home; the theme was "The History of the Appreciation of Antiquities." It consisted of three days with two lectures each, and was

very well attended. Today we begin the first day of this year's series, on "The Influence of the Chinese and the French."

In January we had a meeting of the women of the Branch and the Society, at which Mr. Charles Van Ravenswaay of the Missouri Historical Society spoke. He told us of the extraordinary work done by the ladies of that organization, everything from annual fairs to parties on river boats. His talk was entitled "The Feminine Touch." We of the Woman's Branch decided to use the feminine touch, and I do intend a pun, to get new members for the New Jersey Historical Society. The drive for members, under the leadership of Mrs. Louis B. Warren, chairman, had to date brought in 432 members, thereby increasing the membership of the Society by 25 per cent. In addition to this there is an offer of a devoted member of the Society to pay, annually, up to $5000, the same amount that is raised by the members secured this year. You can see that we are not far away now from that goal; so we ask every one's help in going over the top. It is hard to thank all those who have worked so hard properly; we can only say how grateful we are to all those members of the Society and staff who have helped. I cannot let this occasion pass without mentioning in particular Mrs. Crawbuck, our membership secretary: in addition to other tasks she has checked on every one of the thousands of names which have been sent out, and has taken upon herself just recently a list of 17,000 more.

In May at our annual meeting Mr. Whitfield Bell spoke on "Poor Richard in New Jersey."

The Woman's Branch continued this year in giving prizes for essays and posters for the school children coming to the building. We sent a boy to New Jersey Boy's State, and provided subscriptions to various periodicals and needed material.

I am sorry to say that Mrs. Tillinghast has resigned as recording secretary; her place has been taken by Mrs. Bucher, whom we are delighted to have with us. Mrs. Pugh continues as a most efficient treasurer. Mrs. Alfred Parker, corresponding secretary, is due especial thanks not only for her work as corresponding secretary but as a very able member-getter. To the staff, also, we owe an expression of our appreciation.

Mrs. Frederick Frelinghuysen, *President*

REPORT OF THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Your corresponding secretary has very little to report. Only a few letters have been received this past year. Requests for historical and genealogical information are now sent to the library and replied to by our staff.

In the few received, interest was shown in the coming 1964 celebration of the return to power of the English in New Jersey in 1664. We hope this interest will continue.

The most interesting question asked concerned the Hessian prisoners

taken after the Battle of Trenton: what was done with such a large number of them, supposed to be nearly one thousand.

To state briefly, they were sent to Newtown, Pennsylvania, and housed in the barracks there. Here all artisans in the large group, such as shoemakers, weavers, carpenters, and so forth, were listed and hired out to work. These workers were paid and fed by those hiring them, the later item being of assistance to our army as food for it was a scarcity at that time. The English complained of our prisoners receiving so much indulgence and the craftsmen earning money.

With these captured Hessians was a "Compleat Band of Musick" which Col. Rahl always used on special occasions. It is said to be the first such band in our country and was kept by Congress in Philadelphia. Here it played at the first anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, July 4, 1777.

Information was desired regarding orderly books kept by New Jersey officers during the Revolution. There are several of these in our library which are mentioned in our *Proceedings* for October 1897. We also have an interesting one belonging to a Connecticut regiment. All interesting reading.

Mrs. Joseph W. Greene, *Corresponding Secretary.*

(The reports of the Treasurer and of certain committees reached the Editor too late to be included in this issue of the Proceedings. They will be published in the April number.)

FADEN'S MAP
of
THE PROVINCE OF NEW JERSEY

The Society has recently reproduced in facsimile the 1778 map of New Jersey published during the American Revolution in 1778 by William Faden, London map seller.
Reproduced from the handsome copy in the Ely Collection, the map is full size, 34 by 22¾ inches, and printed in six colors from plates made in Italy.
Copies are available in heavy mailing tubes, post paid, upon receipt of $7.50 each, from The New Jersey Historical Society, 230 Broadway, Newark 4, N. J.

THE NEW JERSEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
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I. East Jersey under the Proprietary Governments: A Narrative of Events Connected with the Settlement and Progress of the Providence, until the Surrender of the Government to the Crown in 1703. *By William A. Whitehead,* 1846. *Second Edition,* 1875.

II. The Life of William Alexander, Earl of Stirling; Major General in the Army of the United States, during the Revolution: With Selections from his Correspondence by his grandson, William Alexander Duer, LL.D. 1847. *(Out of Print.)*

III. The Provincial Courts of New Jersey, with Sketches of the Bench and Bar. *By Richard S. Field,* 1849. *(Out of Print.)*

IV. The Papers of Lewis Morris, Governor of the Province of New Jersey, from 1738 to 1746. 1852.

V. An Analytical Index to the Colonial Documents of New Jersey in the State Paper Offices of England. *Compiled by Henry Stevens. Edited by William A. Whitehead,* 1858.

VI. Records of the Town of Newark, New Jersey, from its Settlement in 1666, to its Incorporation as a City in 1836. 1864.
Supplement: Proceedings Commemorative of the Settlement of Newark, New Jersey, on its Two Hundredth Anniversary, May 17th, 1866.

VII. The Constitution and Government of the Province and State of New Jersey, with Biographical Sketches of the Governors from 1776 to 1845, and Reminiscences of the Bench and Bar, during more than Half a Century. *By Lucius Q. C. Elmer,* LL.D. 1872.

VIII. Semi-Centennial Celebration of the Founding of the New Jersey Historical Society, at Newark, N. J., May 16, 1895.

IX. New Jersey Biographical and Genealogical Notes from the Volumes of the New Jersey Archives with Additions and Supplements. *By the late William Nelson.* 1916.

X. The Loyalists of New Jersey: Their Memorials, Petitions, Claims, etc. from English Records. *By E. Alfred Jones,* M.A., F.R.HIST. SOC. 1927.

XI. A Guide to the Manuscript Collection of The New Jersey Historical Society. *By Fred Shelley, Librarian.* 1957.

XII. Juet's Journal. The Voyage of the *Half Moon* from 4 April to 7 November 1609. *By Robert Juet. Introduction by John T. Cunningham. Edited by Robert M. Lunny.* 1959.

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Contemporary drawing of Patience Wright, published in the November 1775 issue of *The London Magazine*. The object on her lap is an unidentified bust, similar to many which she made in wax.

"Patience Wright of Bordentown," p. 118.